

# Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No. 1863, December 4, 1954

## THEY CLIMB AND CAMP ON KILIMANJARO

**Schoolboys learning leadership on the slopes of Africa's highest mountain**

*Scaling snow-capped Kilimanjaro, Africa's mightiest mountain, is the challenging climax of a fine new training course for East African secondary schoolboys.*

*Many of tomorrow's leaders may well be among the boys—white, black, and brown—who, without distinction, work and play hard together near Tanganyika's border.*

THE training centre is built beside a stream and so is called Loitokitok which means "Gurgling Waters," and the groups of senior schoolboys who journey thither come to test their capacity for leadership, initiative, and comradeship.

Kenya's Education Department plans the courses on the lines of the well-known Outward Bound Trust training. This includes

### HULLO, HIPPO!

A wandering hippo has arrived at Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia. The first person to see it was a man who had gone to sleep on the banks of the Hunyani River. He awoke to find the hippo nuzzling him, and broke all local sprint records in the direction of town. Hippo followed in his own time.

The authorities at once issued an order that no one in Salisbury was to harm or scare the animal, which is believed to have come from Lake Mellwaine, six miles distant, where several hippos have made their home.

### MEASURING THE WAVES

How high is a wave?

This scientific question is to be studied by Americans with a British-made sea-wave recorder which was ordered by the Oceanographic Institution at Wood's Hole, Massachusetts, for the research ship, Atlantic.

The sea-wave recorder was designed by hydrographers of the Royal Navy and National Oceanographic Council in Britain. The inventors declare that for the first time it will now be possible to record the exact height of waves.

### THE SHOW WENT ON

In Leeds recently Billy Smart's circus suffered the worst experience of its seven years on the road. After a day of gales, the "big top" was damaged beyond repair. But a special performance, to which 1000 children had been invited, was due the next afternoon.

A new tent was obtained from the circus headquarters at Windsor and, by a great effort on the part of everyone concerned, working through a night of wind and rain, all was ready in time for the children's special treat.

tracking, climbing, physical training, and endurance tests with lectures, study, and discussion. Patrols, led in turn by dusky Africans, turbaned Asians, and white boys search for the tracks over the jungle-clad slopes.

Game-spotting, here, is a day-to-day reality, for in the shadow of the huge mountain whose glaciers shimmer under the torrid sun, elephant, leopard, lion, and a host of smaller game abound.

### THE CLIMB

Finally comes the big test—the 19,340-foot ascent. First the boys plod upwards through maize and coffee plantations, irrigated by the melting snows. Next day sees them emerging above the forest belt, meeting stiffer, sandy going.

The major peak, Kibo, is seen rising far beyond a landscape of bleak moorland and snowy chasms. At night the group shelter in caves, or in one of the crude rest huts placed at strategic climbing points. Demands on lungs and sinew become sterner on the third or fourth days and the climbers find themselves in a strange, silent world, birdless and grassless. Slowly, laboriously, the last 1000-foot stretch is approached.

For the African boys on the course it is a new experience indeed to be bundled up in thick mountaineering garb.

### CROSSING THE ICE-LINE

"At times we had to go one step and rest for five minutes," ran the report of Jonah Wafula, who hails from a tribe in hilly Nyanza. "Sunrise—we crossed the ice-line and painfully made our way up. At 9.10 we got to the crater edge. We had conquered the cold and completed what we had begun! It was a great wonder to me to see huge blocks of ice bigger than large buildings."

Aching but happy, with hardships and dangers shared regardless of race, the schoolboys of East Africa return to base, amid the dusty plains and scattered bush. Perhaps their conquering of lofty, ice-tipped Kilimanjaro is symbolic. By scaling the heights in racial comradeship they have surely forged bonds which must serve their vast continent well in the days to come.



**New arrivals  
in safe hands**

Mother ewe seems to be helping the sleepy one to hold up its head. The shepherd will have an anxious time caring for these and other early lambs during the cold weather.

### LOST TRIBE

Two London men are searching for a lost tribe of yellow Bushmen in Bechuanaland.

Mr. MacDonald Hastings and Mr. Christopher Ware have left for the Kalahari Desert to see if they can find traces of these mysterious people. Mr. Ware is a photographer and hopes to make a record of their journey.

### THE LONGEST DROP

A record parachute drop from a height of more than 45,200 feet, or over eight and a half miles, has been made by two United States Air Force officers.

This new record was achieved during trials of a new ejector-seat carried out from a B.47 jet bomber, commonly known as the Strato-jet.

### ENCHANTED MEADOW

**Solving the mystery of the dancing cows**

The North Wales village of Henrhyd, near Conway, has solved the mystery of its meadow of dancing cows.

For two or three weeks the same thing happened. Whenever the cows entered this particular meadow they immediately began to prance and caper about. But the strange thing was that when the cows left at milking time they at once resumed their normal behaviour and filed off quietly to the milking shed.

Some of the villagers began to talk of black magic and evil spells.

Then one of the villagers decided to investigate the mystery. Entering the meadow he seized

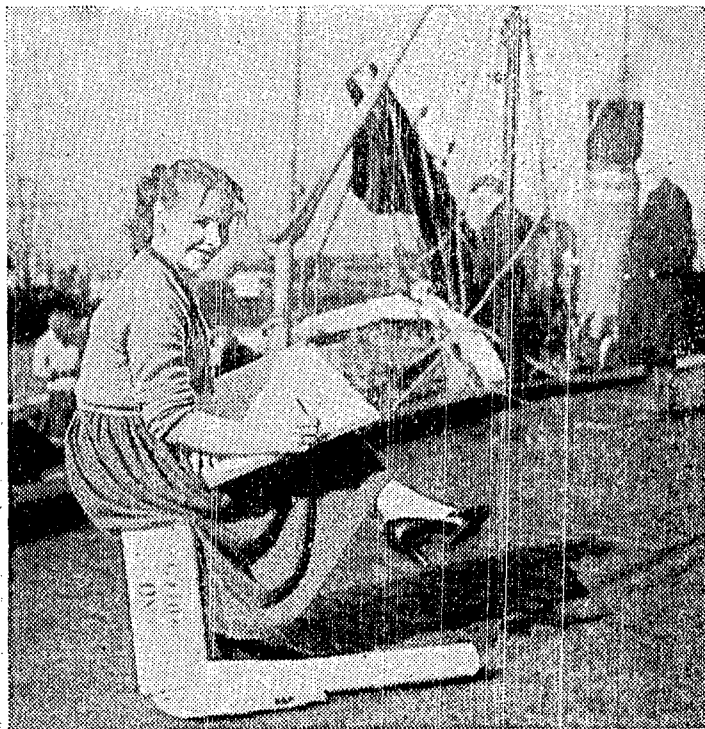
hold of the tail of a cow that had fallen on its side and immediately received an electric shock.

The secret of the bewitched meadow was out. In the meadow stood a pole carrying electrical transformers. The swampy ground around it was receiving a strong charge of electricity.

### JUST AN OLD KIT BOX

An old Army kit box, once the property of Florence Nightingale, has been found in Oudtshoorn, South Africa. It was exhibited recently in Cape Town, and is now a treasured relic in the Oudtshoorn Museum.





### Local artist—local industry

Pat Adams, of the Great Yarmouth School of Arts, finds as the Old Masters did, that there are no more livelier subjects than local people doing local work. Her school is quite near the fish wharf.

## FROM BUSH VILLAGE TO LONDON TOWN

New Zealand's new High Commissioner in London, Mr. T. Clifton Webb, is a shining example of the axiom that there is always room at the top for the boy who works hard and plays hard. His career, indeed, is reminiscent of President Garfield's progress "From Log Cabin to White House."

Mr. Webb, who is to take up office here this month, was born in 1889 in a bush settlement about 100 miles north of Auckland. He grew up amid the huge kauri pine trees which were cut down for timber on the banks of the Northern Wairo River—"big water" in the Maori language.

When he was 13 he won a scholarship to Auckland Grammar School, and made what was then the long journey from his bush

village to the city by steamer and railway.

He studied hard as a youth, but also found time to play. For several years he was a noted Rugby half-back, representing Auckland City against the best teams from other parts of New Zealand in 1914. He served in the First World War, and returned to take up practice as a lawyer.

In 1943 he was elected M.P. for the district which had been his boyhood home, and later, as Minister for External Affairs, he represented his country with great diplomatic skill at world conferences held at Geneva and Manila.

Mr. Webb will continue to speak for two million New Zealanders as their ambassador in the Motherland.

### OAKS FROM EVERYWHERE

At the Castle Howard Estate, near Malton, Yorks, acorns will soon be arriving from Soviet Russia, Mediterranean countries, North America, Japan, and many other parts of the world. An attempt is being made to establish a plantation of about 300 different varieties of oak trees.

It is not yet known whether all these will grow in this country and the experiment will take some three or four years.

Oak trees thrive on the Castle Howard Estate which already has some fine American red oak, grown from acorns brought across by the fifth Earl of Carlisle when he visited America some 150 years ago. The red oak can be felled in 70 or 80 years, while some other kinds must stand for 150 years before being ready.

The present experiment at Castle Howard is being carried out "partly for beauty, partly for amusement, partly for a hobby"—and also because oak is a good long-term investment.

### Handle carefully



Hedgehogs make nice pets and are becoming increasingly popular. This trio, for sale at about 10s. each, will easily find good homes.

### ROUND FIGURES

The world's largest circular saw is being made at Carnoustie, near Dundee. Eleven and a half feet in diameter and weighing a ton, it will be used for cutting stone in Somerset.



By the C.N. Press Gallery Correspondent

THE Colonial debates of the House of Lords are always well worth reading in Hansard. Many peers have had experience as Governors or administrators; and what they say is of profound value to young folk who may one day enter the Overseas Service.

Lord Milverton, a former Governor of Nigeria, remarked in a recent debate that a lot of nonsense is talked about the "wide open spaces" of Africa. He explained:

"The greatest disservice to Colonial development, as I see it, is to spread the idea that political progress and recklessly profuse expenditure of money can solve all problems. It can do nothing of the sort.

"The human element is the very foundation of every conservation programme, just as it is also the reason for it. And in Africa an almost malignant Nature has to be humoured, and the lesson of working with it learned."

At Kongwa, one of the Tanganyika areas where a previous Government failed to grow oil-yielding groundnuts, a ranching scheme is to be developed, with Europeans farming alongside Africans.

Lord Ogmore explained in the same debate why agriculture is such a difficult operation in these latitudes and why, unless great care is taken, soil is turned into desert.

He said that though a patch of country may look perfectly sound for grass growing, if the water level is too far beneath the surface for the grass roots to get down into it, when the scrub is dug up all that is left is desert.

"The grass roots are not nearly so long as the scrub roots; they will not get down into the water, and the grass seeds will die."

A COMMITTEE of Vice-Chancellors and Principals of universities is considering whether university fees should go up—an operation which would take some time.

The question arises because the salaries of professors, readers, and lecturers in universities have not been reviewed since 1949, and now new rates of pay have come into force for full-time staff.

Professors' salaries in some cases can reach £3100 a year, but the more general maximum figure is £2850. Readers and senior lecturers, medical and non-medical, fall within the range of £650 to £1850 or £2050.

The increase in the recurrent Government grant needed to give effect to the new rates is estimated at about £2,250,000 a year.

It costs an average of £140,000 to construct one mile of two-lane dual carriageway road on a trunk route, excluding the cost of the land, says Mr. Boyd-Carpenter, Minister of Transport.

## News from Everywhere

### HEALTHIER BRITAIN

In spite of one of the worst summers in memory the nation has never had fewer infectious illnesses, according to the British Medical Journal.

Boys of the 25th Northampton Company of The Boys' Brigade look up to their sergeant in every way. He is J. Simpson who, though only 17, is six feet six inches tall.

Scrap metal and piping were used by engineers of the Mulberry Hill, 7000-ton London tramp ship, to convert their oil-burning engine into a coal-burner when the oil supply gave out in mid-Atlantic.

Although blind, Mr. Percy Bradley of Long Eaton, Nottinghamshire, keeps his allotment in such an excellent state that he has received special congratulations from the local council.

### SAFETY NUMBER

Over 70,000 boys and girls have passed the Cycling Proficiency Test of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents.

Boys of Lewes County Grammar School are to build their own chapel.

Three Rover Scouts of Cleckheaton, Yorkshire, J. M. Briggs, D. R. Cooper, and G. Crowther, have been awarded the Scout Gilt Cross for going to the rescue of two bathers who got into difficulties at Filey.

### DANISH TRIBUTE

Danish admirers of Sir Winston Churchill are to set up a bust of him near the English Church of Copenhagen.

The population of France is now 43,041,000, three million more than in 1946.

An Anglo-American road safety class has been started at Manston in Kent. Children of U.S. Servicemen and their British friends receive lessons from Joseph Villardi, the American Air Force "driver of the year."

The King George VI Foundation has made a grant of £60,000 to set up a national recreation centre in the heart of the Snowdonia National Park.

### MORE FLYING DOCTORS

Australia now has ten Flying Doctor radio bases. The latest is to serve people living in the far north and west of South Australia.

At a huge gathering at Wewak, New Guinea, 10,000 natives took part in all-night ceremonial dances to celebrate the opening of a new Papuan infant welfare clinic and maternity-hospital.

Two new records set up by Viscount turbo-prop airliners (from Glasgow to London and from Manchester to London) bring the number of records set up by Viscounts to 30.

# The OVALTINEYS' own 'Puzzle Corner'



Can you spot the 4 different pairs?

In this puzzle two objects are made of the same material; two begin with the same letter of the alphabet; two are the same colour; and two are used for the same purpose.













EVERY BOY AND GIRL SHOULD JOIN THE LEAGUE OF OVALTINEYS

Members of the League of Ovaltineys have great fun with the secret high-signs, signals and code. You can join the League and obtain your badge and the Official Rule Book (which also contains the words and music of the Ovaltiney songs), by sending a label from a tin of Ovaltine, with your full name, address and age to: THE CHIEF OVALTINEY (Dept. D), 42 Upper Grosvenor Street, London, W.1.

## OVALTINE

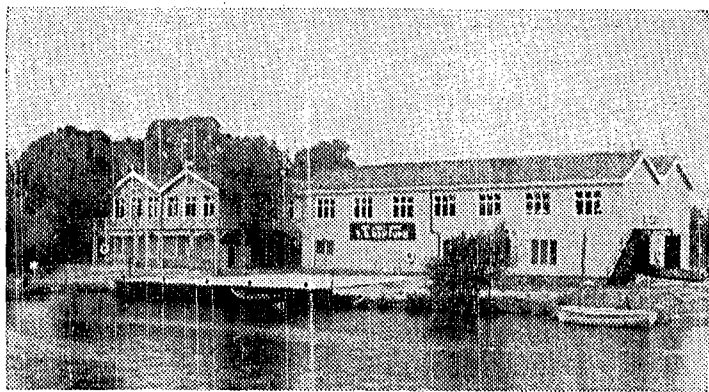
The World's Most Popular Food Beverage

Turn this upside down to find the correct answers.

1. Tumbler and Marble (Both are made of glass).
2. Cow and Candle (Both begin with a "C").
3. Leaf and "Go" Traffic Light (Both are green).
4. Soap and Brush (Both are used for cleaning).



## ISLAND AS TRAINING SHIP



Training Ship Neptune

An islet in the Thames has become a "ship." Raven's Ait at Surbiton, Surrey, is now the Training Ship Neptune, a national boat-training station for sea cadets.

The little island, about 1½ acres in extent, has had its banks strengthened against floods and its boathouses, long derelict, reconstructed to accommodate 20 officers and some 200 cadets, at a cost of about £35,000.

The layout of the new buildings follows the lines of a ship, with wardroom, cadets' quarters, and an all-electric galley which has been equipped by the General Electric Company.

T.S. Neptune will be run like a first-class ship, with the hard training customary in the Royal Navy. It will also be a headquarters for overseas cadets visiting Britain.

## THE GAME OF THEIR LIVES

An amusing new family game called Highway Hazard has the additional advantage of teaching Road Safety. It consists of a board with pictures of town and country features. Figures representing pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists are moved in squares along country roads and town streets. The idea, of course, is to get your figure "home" first, and it is all great fun.

Based entirely on the Highway Code, this game has been approved by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, and it can be obtained from most toyshops and big stores, price 15s.

## JOURNEY'S END

Mr. William McMurray, a postman of Gatehouse, Kircudbrightshire, has retired after walking or cycling 400,000 miles with the mail during a period of 51 years. His round was the 20 miles of the Anwoth-Skyreburn route and he was absent sick on only three days in his half-century of service.

January 31, 1953, is a day he will always remember—for then the gale blew him off his cycle, and, with the wind at his back, he had to use his brakes even when riding up the hills.

## TALE OF A SHIRT IN A BASKET

A curious but treasured article of furniture stands in a directors' room at Bonnybridge, Stirlingshire. The item in question is a battered old wicker basket lined with tin. Inside it is a shirt, and thereby hangs a tale.

James Smith, the founder of the firm, which makes well-known cookers and stoves and is celebrating its centenary this year, left Edinburgh when he was 16 to seek his fortune in America. With hard work he prospered and a few years later became one of the founders of Jackson, the capital of Mississippi, where he set up a large ironmongery business.

Early in his career James Smith had occasion to re-cross the

Atlantic, but during the voyage the ship in which he was travelling was in collision off the Newfoundland Banks and went down. He managed to crawl on to a small raft but as this was continuously awash he would have died of exposure but for a tin-lined wicker basket, which he saw floating nearby.

He hauled it aboard and sat in it, chilled but dry, for three days. Then he saw a ship on the horizon and attracted its attention by standing up in the basket and frantically waving his shirt above his head.

That same shirt and that same wicker basket are in the directors' room today.

## Horace the loris



He is a loris (kind of lemur) and is known as the slow loris because it takes him about five minutes to move six inches. He comes from Assam, India, and is now in the London Zoo.

## SOMETHING TO WRITE ABOUT

Ten South African school-children—six boys and four girls—will visit Britain early next year as a result of winning essay competitions. It will be a dream come true for these youngsters, because they all wanted to visit Britain so much.

Their entries were chosen out of more than 1500 received from 204 high schools, and the scheme was organised by the British Travel Association and the Union-Castle Steamship Company.

They will be taken for a coach tour of Britain, will watch the Rugby International between Scotland and Wales at Edinburgh on February 5, and have tea at the House of Lords.

The subject of the essay was "Why I want to visit Britain when I leave school."

## SIR WINSTON'S WINDOW

A stained-glass window with the arms of Sir Winston Churchill has been on view at the Wealdstone factory of Messrs. Powell. It had been taken there for craftsmen to alter so that it included the blue ribbon of the Order of the Garter conferred on him by the Queen. This is now shown buckled round the shield.

The window belongs to the series of heraldic windows in the Long Gallery at Chequers, which since 1921 has been the official country residence of Britain's Prime Ministers.

## FOOTBALL AS AN ART

Lads who want to acquire the art of playing football could have no better guide than Skilful Soccer (Educational Productions, 6s.), published for the Football Association.

Based on the experience of Walter Winterbottom, England's team manager and Director of F.A. Coaching, this excellent little book contains over 100 illustrations and 80 practical exercises.

Any young player who really masters the exercises in this book is on the way to becoming a first-class footballer.

## FANFARE FOR A JUDGE

When Mr. Justice Havers arrived at York Castle for the York Assizes he was greeted by a fanfare of trumpets—but with a difference. Instead of the usual martial strains, the trumpeters played America's "Happy Birthday to You" and, to stress the county's welcome, ended with a few bars of Yorkshire's "On Ilkka' Moor baht 'at." It was the judge's 65th birthday.

## PROUD PLOUGHBOY

Edwin Maude of Eccup, near Leeds, had a bad cold, but this did not prevent him taking his place in a Yorkshire ploughing and hedging competition; nor from winning first prize in the under-15 class.

Edwin, who is eleven, has driven a tractor on his father's farm for the last three years, and this was his second ploughing match.

## BACKGARDEN JETPLANE

Vertical take-off planes, easy to fly and about as cheap to run as a car, were forecast recently by Mr. Hall L. Hibbard, chief of engineering at the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation.

Mr. Hibbard, designer of the Constellation airliner and many of its predecessors, suggested that all private planes in future should be built around ducted jet engines, which would make them extremely economical.

## Figure of fun



This carnival clown figure amused the visitors to the National Display Convention and Exhibition in London.

## HE HAS SAVED THE SIGHT OF THOUSANDS

Sir Henry Holland, one of the greatest eye surgeons in the world, worked as a medical missionary on the North-West Frontier for more than 50 years before retiring to Surrey. Now he is returning to India for a few months at the request of the local sirdars, who are paying expenses.

Sir Henry will be 80 early in 1955 and will be back on the frontier at the time of his birthday. During his service with the Church Missionary Society he built up a health service near the Baluchistan border and became the trusted adviser of the tribesmen. Over half the cases he has treated have been due to cataract, and it is estimated that his mission hospital has given sight to 100,000 people.

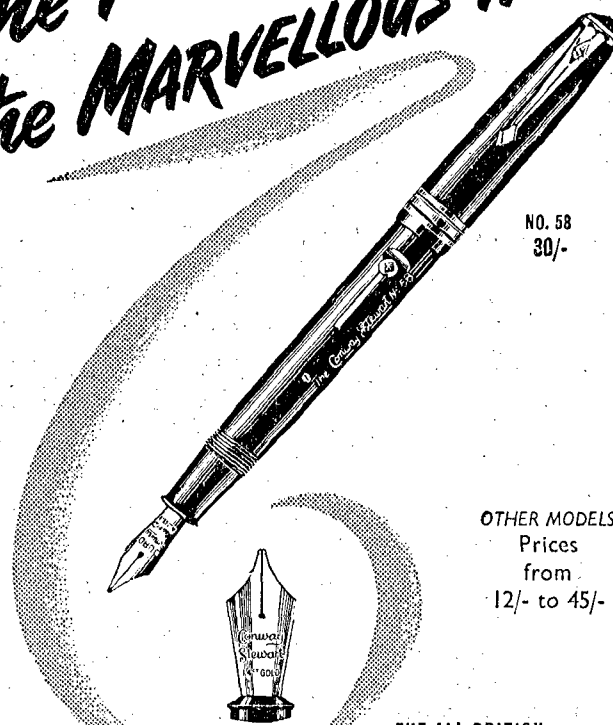
During his present visit, helped by his son and two other surgeons, 2500 operations will be performed.

## HELP FOR THE GUIDES

The Girl Guides Association has received £38,500 from the King George VI Foundation. Some £30,000 of this is to be invested, and part of the income will be used to train new leaders. A further £1000 will be spent on a "King George VI" van to carry the training team from place to place.

The remainder will be used for experiments in new training methods, and in sending chosen members to Commonwealth countries to learn about conditions at first hand.

The Pen with the MARVELLOUS Nib!



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30/-

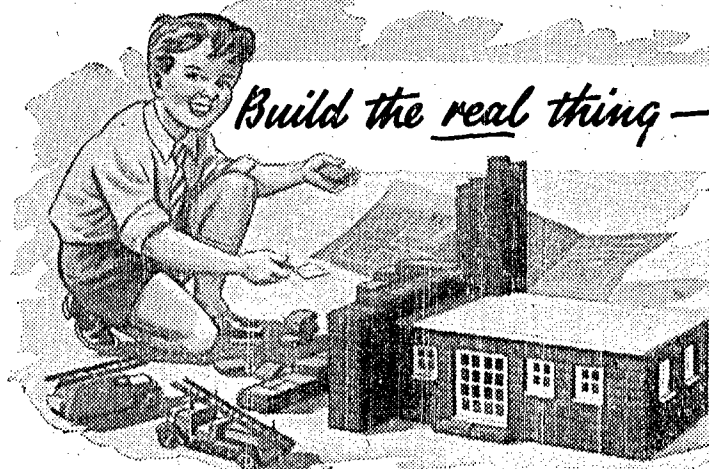
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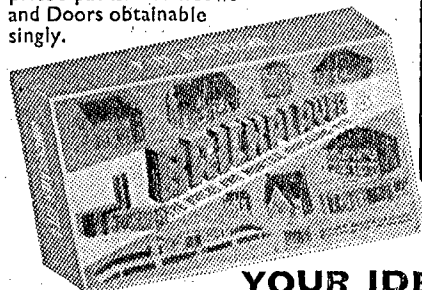
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## It happened this week

### DEATH OF A CARDINAL

NOVEMBER 29, 1530. LEICESTER—Cardinal Wolsey, banished favourite of King Henry, died this morning at Leicester Abbey after a severe attack of dysentery. Arrested on November 4 at Cawood while on his way to York, where he was to be enthroned in great magnificence, he was being brought to London to stand trial for treason.

The last words of this humbled prelate were: "Had I served God as diligently as I have done the king, He would not have given me over in my grey hairs."

Deserted by his former friends when he fell from royal favour, this proud, imperious man who had secured for himself enormous riches and preferment, was finally reduced to borrowing money in order to live.

After his death it was found that the Cardinal wore a hair shirt next to his skin.

### FIRST WOMAN M.P.

DECEMBER 1, 1919. LONDON—After centuries of exclusively masculine control the House of Commons today had the unprecedented experience of welcoming its first woman member to take her seat in Parliament.

She was Lady Astor, Member for the Sutton division of Plymouth. Wearing a velvet toque and a blue tailor-made costume, she was introduced by the Prime Minister, Mr. Lloyd George, and by Mr. Balfour.

The Ladies' Gallery was crowded, and it was notable that the grille, which formerly screened occupants from the members, has now been removed forever. It was also Ladies' Day for the Press, for two women journalists were admitted to the Press Gallery for the first time in history.

After taking the Oath and signing the roll, Lady Astor later recorded her vote for the first time—against Premium Bonds.

Although she is the first lady member to take her seat in the Commons, Lady Astor was not the first elected. That honour fell to Countess Markievicz who, in 1918, refused to take her seat.

### NEW TAX ON INCOME

DECEMBER 3, 1798. LONDON—Parliament gasped with surprise today when Mr. Pitt ended his long Budget speech by announcing the imposition of a general tax on income to help to bridge the £23,000,000 deficit largely arising from the expense of the Napoleonic wars.

All those with incomes up to £60 must now pay 10s. tax yearly. This tax will rise by degrees to a total of £20 yearly on incomes of £200 and over. Deductions may be claimed for children and repairs to property.

Total estimated annual income from this unprecedented tax is assessed at £10,000,000.

Mr. Pitt said taxpayers had shamefully evaded the former taxes imposed on carriages, horses, and menservants.

### RADIO AND TV

## OPERATION ESCORT

### Attacking and guarding a convoy

GUARDING a convoy in the English Channel in wartime is one of the most hazardous of Naval operations. Viewers can see how it is done in Operation Escort, a TV programme on Friday which was filmed during N.A.T.O. Channel Command exercises last October. The second part of the programme will be shown a week later.

The convoy, represented by a tanker, is taken over at Start Point by a French patrol craft and later by the anti-submarine frigate H.M.S. Tyrian, and defended by a Shackleton aircraft.

On its trip the convoy is attacked by submarines and E-boats, and

threatened by enemy aircraft and mines.

A group of reporters tell the story from all angles: Patrick O'Donovan at operational H.Q. on Portsmouth, overlooking Portsmouth; Brian Connell on the French ship; Geoffrey Johnson in the Shackleton aircraft; and Geoffrey Galwey on the Tyrian. For the enemy's point of view, David Dunhill reports from an attacking submarine.

Part Two on December 1 will take us from Selsey Bill to the Belgian coast, where reporters join a Dutch defending destroyer, a fleet of Belgian minesweepers, and a squadron of fast-moving E-boats.

### The Gang's all here



16-year-old Roger Biddlecombe of the 10th Finchley Troop rehearsing a Gang Show number with his colleagues

NEARLY 120 Boy Scouts from all over Britain are taking part in Ralph Reader's Gang Show at Golders Green Hippodrome. On Friday their parents and relations will no doubt be looking in when the TV cameras give us an excerpt

from this All-Scout Revue, now in its 22nd year.

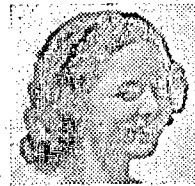
Fathers who were in the early Gang Shows will be joining in with their sons, and I hear that the cast also includes one or two grandchildren of the original stars.

### Goons too crazy?

THE compère of the Children's Hour New Year's Day Party will be Bill Greenslade, the announcer whose booming voice you may have heard in the Goon Show. He tells me the Goons would like to do a children's programme but the BBC chiefs think their sort of fun is too crazy. What do you think?

### Record prizewinner

ANN TILBURY, of Woking, Surrey, has created a record by being the first to win 2 Children's Hour competitions. Ann, who is a Guide Patrol Leader, achieved this with Are You an Author?



Ann Tilbury

within a week or two of reaching the age limit, her 17th birthday.

Beginning when she was ten, Ann has scored wins in a variety of subjects including natural history, Guess the Tune, general knowledge, and, quite recently, in Why Not Write a Monologue?

### Cameras in the college

Does TV interfere with your home lessons? On Thursday, for the first time in TV, we can turn to the screen and watch other boys at prep. The scene will be Marlborough College, which the cameras are visiting to give viewers a glimpse of Public School life.

Prep will be going on in the Upper School, where the cameras will call before moving on to the art room, classrooms, the gym, a meeting of senior prefects, and, finally, the Chapel.

There will be filmed sequences, too, showing the boys in the playing-fields. Marlborough is a great school for hockey, which is considered as important a winter game as Rugby football.

### Looking ahead

THE BBC certainly looks far ahead. From Maurice Browne, ex-sailor producer and broadcaster, I hear that plans are already mapped out for a whole week of broadcasts next October dealing with the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar.

ERNEST THOMSON



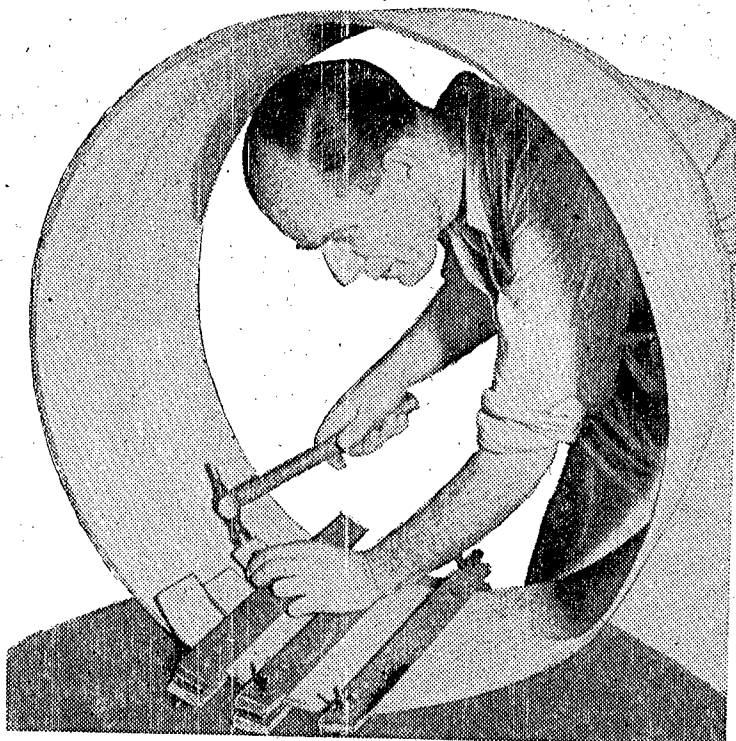
# THE MEN BEHIND THE DRUM

Few people remain unmoved by the beat of a drum, but even fewer know how a drum is made.

These pictures were taken in the London works of Henry Potter and Company. This firm made drums which sounded at the Battle of Waterloo, being founded in 1810 by Drum-Major Samuel Potter of the Coldstream Guards. His own great-grandson is in command to-day.

There is no mass production here; everything is done by hand to suit the special requirements of each customer.

The quality of these craftsmen's drums, bugles, sashes, and other items of martial pageantry is world-famous. In many countries soldiers march to the beating of drums from this historic factory, which is tucked away in a quiet side street off Cambridge Circus in the heart of London's West End.



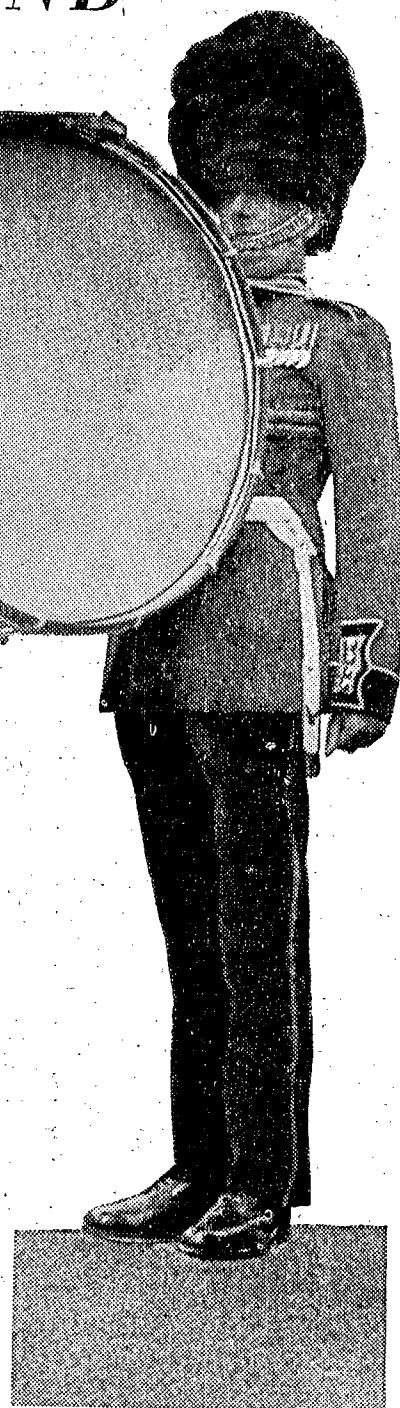
A bass drum shell is strongly clamped, then glued and wedged



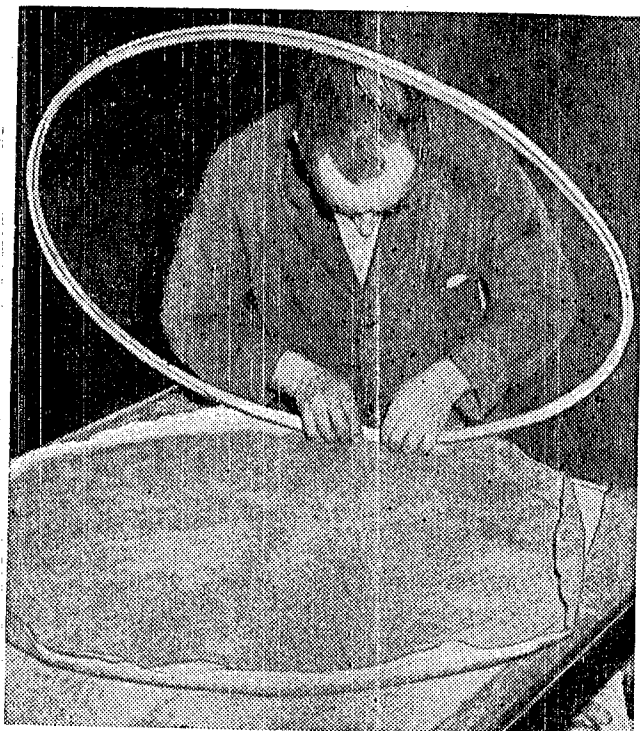
Selecting side-drum hoops, which have been seasoned for about 12 months



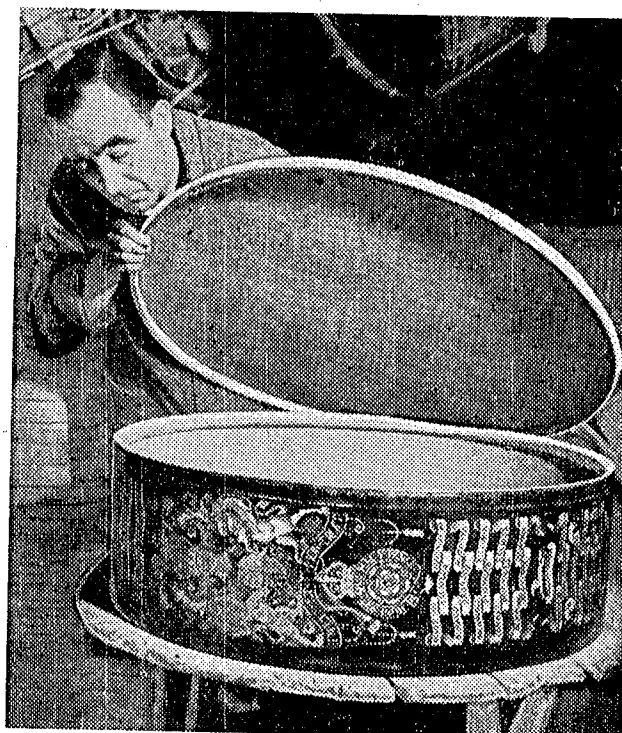
Dried calf skins, ready for use in bass drums



All ready for the big bang!



A skin, after soaking, is fixed to an ashwood hoop



The skin, now fixed on its hoop, is placed in position



Final stages—roping a drum with 21 yards of cord



# Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House  
Whitefriars . London . E C 4  
DECEMBER 4 . . . . . 1954

## ATOMS FOR PEACE

*We might even find ourselves in a few years moving along a broad, smooth causeway of peace and plenty, instead of roaming and peering around the rim of hell.*

Sir Winston Churchill

SCIENCE and scientists are often blamed for the dangers of atomic power. But the power itself is not evil, any more than those responsible for developing it. The evil lies in the misuse, by ordinary human nature, of that power. Used constructively it could bring the world prosperity and leisure at present beyond our dreams.

A great step in the right direction is the new Atoms for Peace plan, which seeks to set up an international agency for the peaceful development of atomic power; power to benefit man, not to destroy him.

There are, of course, many difficulties to be overcome; not in the immediate future will the mighty atom be harnessed for human needs. But it can be said that this 'truly exciting project has passed beyond the stage of mere words into the sphere of action. Both Britain and the U.S.A. have already presented the international agency with valuable radio-active material to serve as fuel for experimental purposes.

If all goes well, an international team of scientists will soon begin to explore together the almost unlimited possibilities of the atom, not only as a generator of light and power, but also as a healer of disease.

It is thrilling to think that a lump of fissionable material, which one boy could lift, contains more latent energy than all the coal in one vast mine.

Man may well be embarking on a wonderful adventure which will turn fear of the atom into thankfulness.

## Under the Editor's Table

On a school Speech Day the speeches are usually as dry as dust, a mother complains. Wants sweeping changes.

*A girl learned to skate in two hours. Just slipped into it.*

Practically every clock chimes differently from Big Ben. A striking fact.

## BATTLE OF THE BIRDS

FLOCKS of starlings have become a serious nuisance on Government buildings in Whitehall. Attempts have been made to scare them away with loud-speakers which give a recording of a hen starling's cries of distress.

In the American city of Cincinnati this gramophone method has proved no more effective against starlings than stuffed owl "scarecrows," fireworks, or strands of tinsel stretched between trees.

And we have a feeling that our own Whitehall starlings will also refuse to be deceived by this "damsel in distress" trick, and will soon be taking up lodgings again among the Civil Servants.

## The worst bike in the school

FROM the West Riding comes an amusing story of a schoolboy who borrowed his father's bicycle because his own was loaded with camping gear ready for a holiday.

It was Father's unlucky day. The local Road Safety Officer came to inspect the school's cycles, and Dad's was declared to be unroadworthy; the worst one, in fact, in the whole school!

The moral is clear. Keeping bicycles in roadworthy condition is a responsibility for grown-ups as well as for youngsters!

## Think on These Things

DAVID was at war with the Philistines. They had taken Bethlehem, and he was compelled to take refuge with some of his soldiers in the cave of Adullam.

He was a born leader, and could command the affection and loyalty of his soldiers. Three of them heard him utter a wish for water from the well by the gate at Bethlehem, and resolved to meet it. They passed secretly through the enemy lines, and brought the water to him.

David was moved; they had risked their lives for his sake. The water was now something precious—the pledge of their loyalty and devotion, and he would not drink it, "the blood of these men that have put their lives in jeopardy."

Instead, "he poured it out to the Lord." David's instinct was right. We offer to God, not what is left over, what is not very important. We give Him gladly the very best that we have.

O. R. C.

PETER PUCK  
WANTS TO  
KNOW

If the shortest  
day is the one  
before pay day

Riding schools are increasing in number. The schools where all pupils get on.



# The Editor's Table

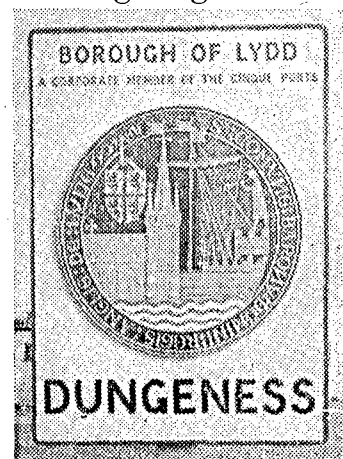
## Saving the bacon

A GOOD old Yorkshire remedy was mentioned by the Princess Royal at a luncheon to celebrate the centenary of the Clayton Hospital at Wakefield.

She recalled that people in the Yorkshire Dales have used for centuries what they describe as the "good mould" from bacon rind to heal open wounds. No doubt, she added, this was a forerunner of penicillin.

"The survival of the fittest, perhaps," she said, "but it reminds us that there is no new thing under the sun."

## Village signs—24



Dungeness, in the Borough of Lydd, Kent, has this sign erected on the beach.

## Kind hearts are more than coronets

THE kindness of an old paper-seller brought joy to the heart of Emperor Haile Selassie while he was in Dusseldorf.

From the window of his hotel he saw the woman give a piece of sugar to a dispirited looking horse with a cart, and then another piece to a dog guiding a blind man. Moved by her simple kindness, the Emperor asked for her to be brought to him, and then rewarded her.

## Thirty Years Ago

From the Children's Newspaper, December, 6, 1924

WHEN the American airmen flew round the world they created a record. They also cured Lieutenant Nelson's baldness. He returned from the wonderful expedition with a thick growth of hair where there had been none!

The authorities of Mecklenburg have decided to sell their prison, as it has had no occupant for years.

Harry Cozens Mace, aged 12, has qualified at Liverpool College for residence as an undergraduate at Oxford, perhaps the youngest case on record.

The wet summer of 1924 has proved to be one of the healthiest on record, and scientists are now telling us that an atmosphere freed by rain from dust is healthier than a sunny summer.

## THE MIXTURE AS BEFORE

THOSE of us who have travelled in foreign countries know what a sickle friend a phrase-book can be. It tells us what to say, but is dumb when we get a reply.

We can sympathise, therefore, with a new German immigrant to Australia who, whenever he felt hungry, used the magic phrase "Pie and tea."

Naturally, after a time he grew tired of pie and tea; so he learned another phrase and with a triumphant smile said to the waitress: "Toasted ham sandwich and coffee!"

"White bread or rye?" she asked.

Poor Karl looked blank, and could only say: "Pie und tea, pie und tea."

## Day of the boy-bishop

THE patron saint of children is St. Nicholas, whose name has become altered to Santa Claus.

December 6 is St. Nicholas' Day and it was between then and December 28 (Holy Innocents' Day) that the rule of the Boy-Bishop used to last in olden days. The custom has been revived in a few places, including St. John's Church, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire. Here, each year, on St. Nicholas' Day the Boy-Bishop is installed before a large congregation.

Elected by other members of the choir, the boy becomes its leader and is responsible for the discipline.

The custom, finally suppressed under Queen Elizabeth I, dates from very early times. The Boy-Bishop was chosen from among the lads of the church or cathedral choir or from the local grammar school.

As the chosen one he conducted all ceremonies of the church except Mass and was given all the honour normally offered to a real bishop.

## JUST AN IDEA

As Thoreau wrote: If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost; that is where they should be. Now put the foundations under them.

## THEY SAY . . .

LET us face it frankly, a bun which has an obvious element resembling cream, is described as a cream bun.

Dr. Charles Hill, M.P.

WE need America to keep us moving, eager, and young for our years and still adventurous. America needs us to keep her patient, sensitive, and aware that if size often shows on a great scale the splendours of God, His deepest secrets are to be found only in the small and simple and domestic.

The Archbishop of Canterbury

THE Tower of London is a horrid building as a building, reeking of blood and agony, but no honest Englishman would tolerate its destruction, because it is regarded as the "good old" Tower of London. Similarly, the Albert Memorial's future is pretty safe, and the gas works at Kennington Oval.

Chairman of the Historic Buildings Council

THE Academy, after my wife, is my only love. The fact that intelligent people despise it and young people laugh at it makes it only more precious.

Sir Gerald Kelly, retiring President of the Royal Academy

CHARITY, to be effective, must spring not from words but from industry and enterprise, and a recognition of personal responsibility.

Sir John Cameron, Q.C.

## Out and About

THE tree-bordered country lane is deeply rutted after the wet and mild autumn, and fields look very green. Even if more severe weather should come before Christmas, only snowfalls could prevent our noticing all this greenness.

The birds look sleek and fat, except some of the newest winter visitors, because they have been able to feed well; that is why most of the red berries of hips and haws are hardly touched yet.

More of the gulls flock into the fields now than in summer, though all of them except the Kittiwake, are as much birds of the land as of the sea, and most of all the black-headed gull. They eat anything, and are not above robbing others, such as lapwings when these have dug up a fat grub or worm.

C. D. D.



OUR HOMELAND

East Moon, in a delightful valley of Hampshire



## NEW FILMS

# WHITE CHRISTMAS IN VISTAVISION

## And Wild West in CinemaScope

It is becoming quite hard to keep pace with all the different new processes of making films nowadays. The latest one to come to London is called VistaVision.

The point about this process is that it shows—on a screen taller than usual, as well as wider—a picture that nevertheless keeps in quite sharp focus. Months ago we saw a demonstration programme of short films made in this

already in the place as entertainers, and, of course, everybody joins in the big show at the end.

The hotel is in Vermont, at a place where Americans go for winter sports, and the reason for its lack of success is that there has been no snow. There is thus a special reason for the general to wish for a white Christmas.

Needless to say, while the big show is proceeding, snow begins



An amusing scene in White Christmas

way, but the first full-length one to be shown in London is White Christmas.

The producers have given it plenty of attractions as well as the novelty of VistaVision. There are Bing Crosby and Rosemary Clooney to sing, Danny Kaye to be funny, and Vera-Ellen to dance—though they all sing and, indeed, all dance.

Perhaps the film could be



A Song and Dance number by Bing Crosby and Danny Kaye

criticised on the grounds that because there are four big stars, none of them gets quite enough to do.

The story is about the way Bob Wallace and Phil Davis (Bing Crosby and Danny Kaye), two stage celebrities who were together in the army during the war, find their former general keeping an inn, and help him to make it a success one Christmas by taking their musical show there.

The Haynes Sisters (Rosemary Clooney and Vera-Ellen) are

to fall; and so the film ends on a note of triumph.

It is all very, gay and tuneful (the tunes are by Irving Berlin). If Danny Kaye is your favourite you may say there ought to have been many more chances for him, but you should still find the whole film full of enjoyment.

ANOTHER new film is a Western in CinemaScope, the wide-screen system we saw first of all. It is with this sort of film that CinemaScope's long, curved screen is most successful. The wide, far-ranging views of the mountains and plains of the American West do really give one a feeling of the open air.

This film is called Broken Lance. The phrase is a reference to the Red Indian way of proclaiming a blood feud—one man tossing a lance in front of his enemy. When the lance is broken it is a sign that the feud is over.

The feud in this story is between two half-brothers, sons of a stern old rancher played by Spencer Tracy. Before it is over there is plenty of the riding and shooting that provide all Western films with excitement.

Perhaps the most notable things about this one are the acting of Spencer Tracy as the dominating old man, and the wonderfully photographed scenery.

### ONCE UPON A TIME

The Czech Ministry of Health wants a fairy story with a difference. A competition has been launched for the best fairy story on hygiene. The prizewinning entry will be read in all schools.

## TREASURE FROM THE SEA BED

A quantity of elephants' tusks covered in seaweed and barnacles have been brought up by divers from a wreck 18 miles off the Devon coast. They had been lying there for 73 years in the steamship Benin, which sank after a collision.

The divers came upon the wreck by accident while they were searching for another. The 96 tusks they have so far recovered are in official custody at Southampton.

The Benin was on her way to Liverpool from West Africa with a cargo of ivory then estimated to be worth £200,000. It remains to be seen whether the ivory is any the worse for its long immersion. The Benin's owners were the African Steamship Company—which is no longer in existence! If no claims to this valuable cargo are made within a year, it will be sold.

## LADY OF THE LAMP

A light which never goes out is now to be seen high up on the side of Ecton Hill on the border of Staffordshire and Derbyshire.

It burns in memory of Ellen, the wife of Mr. Arthur Ratcliffe, former Member of Parliament for Leek. She died in 1946 and, during his spare time since, Mr. Ratcliffe, who is now 72 years old, has been hewing rocks in his garden and making a memorial to her. It is his tribute to a perfect wife.

The memorial comprises a 20-foot long bridge with a memorial tablet on the parapet surmounted by an electric lamp.

Mr. Ratcliffe has made provision in his will so that the light will never be extinguished. It can be seen for miles over the Derbyshire Moors.

## LIVELY CURIOSITIES

Waltzing mice, bred by an 18-year-old St. Paul's schoolboy, were among the many interesting exhibits shown at the Natural History Museum in London during the conference of the Association of School Natural History Societies.

Another surprising item was a live toad recovered from a snake's stomach and reared by boys of Lord Wandsworth College in Hampshire.

Boys from Oundle School showed a two-minute colour film of a hornet clearwing moth emerging from its pupa, and the lads of Bishop's Stortford College presented models and charts illustrating an 18-year record of starling migration.

## STORIES IN STAMPS

The wide variety of themes that can be illustrated by special collections of stamps is shown by the entries sent to the Education Through Stamps competition.

Geography Without Tears, Currencies of the World, People at Work, Those Were the Days, My Tour of the World—these are among the many themes submitted.

Education Through Stamps is being run by the sponsors of the 1955 National Stamp Exhibition, which is to be held in the Central Hall at Westminster, London, from January 8 to 15.

## Sunshades in winter



Three graceful members of the Japanese Ballet Company, which has been performing in London, visit the Tower. Their sunshades are purely ornamental in Britain's winter sunshine.

## HARE NET

The nets on the football ground at Thetford, Norfolk, were found slashed in several places and it was thought that a mischief maker had been busy.

Now it is believed that the damage was caused by hares running across the pitch in the dark and becoming entangled in the nets.

With their sharp teeth, however, they soon found a way out.

## ANTI-FOG PLAN OF LONG AGO

Rummaging recently through a dusty old wooden box, ten-year-old Margaret Wren of Hertford discovered some faded documents concerning an invention aimed at eliminating fog as long ago as 1828.

The inventor was James Gilbertson, a grocer and former mayor of Hertford, who intended his smoke-consuming furnace to be used in the bakehouse ovens and small industrial boilers of the period.

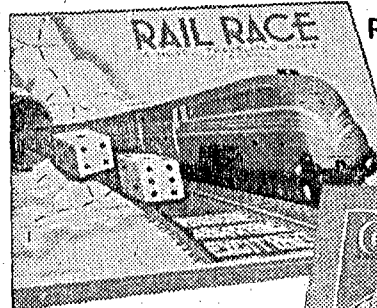
Margaret, her brother John, and a friend took the documents to a local museum, and there they will be preserved.

## PAINLESS BANDAGE

From America comes news of a new adhesive bandage for cuts and wounds that gives no pain while being removed—and most of us know how that operation can hurt. The new bandage is called Telfa, and is said to peel off as easily as the skin of a banana.

It consists of cotton material over which a special plastic film has been spread. The film side is placed next to the skin, where the plastic substance keeps it in place, protecting the wound.

Here's FUN for EVERYONE with SPEARS GAMES



### RAIL RACE

Travel over Britain's railways with miniature engines on large stout map. Plan your own winning routes and be thrilled by "incident cards." 2-6 players. For family 15/9 and children's parties 7/9

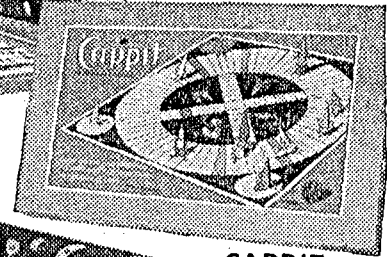
### FLOUNDERING

A great party game. Players collect their flounders by a throw of the dice and rob opponents of their catches. No age limit, even children of five can join. Hilarious fun. 6/3



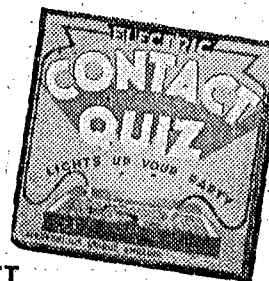
### TELL ME

The queen of quiz games. Spin the wheel and roll out the questions. Endless fun for any age. Any number of players. 6/3



### CAPPIT

A game for 2-4 players, who try to "Catch and Cap" their opponents. As easy as ludo, but much more exciting. 7/9



### CONTACT QUIZ

Here's a grand electrical quiz game simple to use and exciting to play. Questions are asked and if the answer is right on goes the light. Complete with twelve quiz cards but without battery 12/- at good toyshops and stores.

J. W. SPEAR & SONS LTD.  
DEPT. C, ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX



## THREE BLASTS ON A HORN

At nine o'clock every night three blasts of a horn are heard in the North Yorkshire village of Bainbridge.

The horn-blower is Mr. John Metcalfe, a local farmer, whose family have been sounding this signal for generations. The Forest Horn—as it is called—has been blown in Bainbridge as a guide to travellers for many centuries. The village stands below the great expanse of wild moorland known as Wensleydale Forest.

The African buffalo horn now in use was presented to the village 90 years ago and replaced an instrument, probably of local ox-horn, which had decayed with age.

### POEM IN HONOUR

Wensleydale people held a great entertainment; with a band and a procession, to welcome the new horn. A poem was specially written for the occasion, and one of its verses ran like this:

*Though now the forest of its thickets is cleared,  
And no longer the howl of the wild beast is heard,  
Yet still the old horn its duty performs,  
But nearly worn out by braving the storms.*

Mr. Metcalfe will be on duty each night until Shrove Tuesday, when he will take a rest for the summer months until the horn-blowing ceremony begins again in September. He keeps in practice during the summer by playing his trombone in the local band.

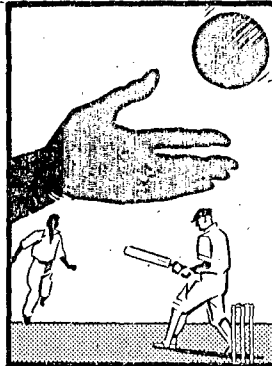
## Steps to Sporting Fame



If Denis Compton's knee injury had not shown signs of again becoming troublesome, Vic Wilson, of Yorkshire, would not be in Australia today as one of the M.C.C. party.

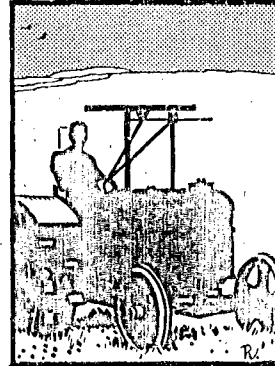


The Yorkshire left-hander, who will be 31 in January, first played for the county in 1916. In 1948 he and Willie Watson scored 302 in a second-wicket partnership against Derbyshire. Four years later, again v. Derbyshire, Wilson hit 230.



Apart from the solid strength of his batting, he is a most valuable man in the field, as was proved conclusively in 1951, when he held 55 catches. In Australia he has been quick to endorse this reputation by his smart fielding on the leg side.

## Vic Wilson



Victor Wilson, like Bailey, Compton, Edrich, and McConnon, has also shown his ability on the Soccer field, having played for Leeds United. But his farm occupies most of his time and it was not easy to leave it, even for this coveted trip.

## SKYSCRAPERS ON STILTS

In their search for new building sites in already overcrowded urban areas, American builders are buying up the "air rights" over the railway yards in the hearts of large cities. With the use of heavy reinforced concrete "stilts," buildings of all types are erected above the permanent way.

A 601-foot-high skyscraper is already rising above the Chicago marshalling yard of the Illinois Central Railroad. Another firm is anxious to erect what would be the world's largest commercial building over the Pennsylvania Railroad tracks in New York's Manhattan district.

### WORLD'S BIGGEST

This would be bigger than Chicago's famous Merchandise Mart, now claimed to be the largest privately-owned building in the world.

In Boston the syndicate which owns the Empire State Building is planning a group of buildings in the 30 acres of air space over the Boston and Albany Railroad company's yards. This would include an hotel, an office building, a million square feet of storage space, a convention hall, a large market, and a garage for more than 2000 cars.

Because of the noise of passing trains and exhaust fumes from diesel engines, such buildings must have their windows permanently closed with air-conditioning provided throughout. The lower floors must also be made absolutely soundproof.

## THRILLS FOR AUSTRALIAN BIRD-WATCHERS

The habits of the short-tailed shearwater, better known as the Tasmanian mutton bird, are being investigated by the Australian Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation.

This work is important commercially, as well as scientifically, and it is being done on Fisher Island, a tiny islet of the Furneaux Group in Bass Strait. Here most of the adult birds and chicks have been banded since 1947.

The mutton bird is an important article of food and this study of the birds' habits will help the hardy islanders whose major source of income is the sale of dressed birds.

Some of the mutton birds have been carrying their bands for six years on their annual journeys between Bass Strait and the far North Pacific.

One of the startling discoveries already made about the mutton birds is that they nest in the same place each year on their return from the north. To wait quietly on Fisher Island among their burrows, only a foot or two apart, and then to pick one up only to find it is the same bird that has tenanted the spot for several years, is a real thrill to the bird-watchers.

Valuable work on bird-banding has also been done on the two Australian sub-Antarctic bases at Heard and Macquarie Islands in the Southern Ocean. Giant petrels banded by the biologists on these two bleak outposts of the Empire have been found in South Africa, South Georgia, Chile, and the Argentine and in near places such as New Zealand, South Australia, and Victoria.

The fairy penguin, which lives along parts of the South Australian coast, has also been banded. One young fairy penguin, banded on December 3, 1952, at Flinders Island, had moved to the other

end of Bass Strait in less than two months. Yet to see these tiny flightless birds in the rough surf one wonders how they could survive, much less swim their journey of 300 miles in eight weeks.

The wild duck of Victoria is also being banded in an endeavour to determine its migratory habits and if its numbers are dwindling. In the past two years 10,000 ducks have been banded and about 900 bands returned. Many have been found in other States, some in Northern Queensland 2000 miles away.

Bird-watching has only become popular in Australia during the last decade.

## QUICK GETAWAY FROM TOP OF THE FORM

Robert MacDermot, one of the Top of the Form Question-masters, has been telling our Radio and TV correspondent of two recent adventures when he had to cross the country at more than express speed.

One week he had finished recording Top of the Form in Derby at 4.30 in the afternoon. At eight o'clock he was to be chairman of TV's Tall Story Club. As there

were no suitable trains the BBC sent up their best driver, hired a sports car, and had him at the TV studios in London with 20 minutes to spare.

The previous week Top of the Form left him stranded at Cardiff. A two-engined plane was chartered, in which he was the only passenger. He landed at Croydon and was whisked to the Lime Grove studios with ten minutes to spare.

## HELP FOR A VANISHING TRIBE

Nurse Margaret Christina Morfydd Young of Perth, Scotland, lived for ten weeks with a primitive tribe in the Malayan jungle because they were in urgent need of skilled help and advice.

There are only about 50 of the tribe left and the Malayan Government was concerned about their welfare and chances of survival. So Nurse Young volunteered to go to help and for ten weeks lived

in a mud hut belonging to the chief, combating disease and undernourishment. She was the first white woman they had seen.

A four-mile jungle track and a treacherous river were the only links with the outside world. Nurse Young said these people are very childlike and cannot count beyond ten.

She hopes to return and see how they are getting on.

## FROM LOG CABIN TO WHITE HOUSE—new picture-version of the romantic story of President Garfield (2)



Jimmy made great progress at school, but when he was 12 his elder brother Thomas left home to earn money with which to build the family a better house. So Jimmy became the "man" of the family, running the farm during the summer instead of going to school. He undertook his new responsibilities with pride and zest, working on a neighbour's farm as well as the Garfields', in return for the loan of some oxen.



Next year Thomas returned with what to the Garfields was the fabulous sum of 75 dollars. They could now afford the materials for a "frame" house. In helping to build it, Jimmy learned much about carpentry, and afterwards earned money as a sparetime carpenter. His services were much in demand because he was a hard worker. In winter, when there was little to do on the farm, he regularly attended school.



At 15, Jimmy went to work and live with a nearby potash-maker, his good wages enabling his mother to pay a man to look after the farm. One evening, absorbed in a book, Jimmy did not realise that his employer's daughter and her fiancé wanted the room to themselves. "I should think it was time for hired servants to be abed," said the girl. Highly indignant at being called a servant, Jimmy left next day.



His next job was wood-cutting on the shores of Lake Erie, not far from his home. The books he had read at the potashery—Marryat's novels, Sindbad the Sailor, Jack Hallyard—had made him long to be a sailor. He often paused in his work to admire the craft sailing on the blue bosom of the lake, and his longing increased. He made up his mind; he would go to sea and, in time, command a ship as Captain Garfield.

What will come of Jimmy's sea-faring notions? See next week's instalment



# MORE BOOKS FOR THE FIRESIDE

## PROGRESS OF EXILES

*The Ark*, by Margot Benary (Macmillan, 8s. 6d.)

THIS story has a true life flavour, for it tells of the kind of adventure many thousands of people are still having.

We meet a family from Pomerania—a mother, two boys, and a girl—whose home has been destroyed in the war. They arrive in a big town after many months of wandering, and settle down to their new life.

But it is a queer kind of life— young Joey hunting for treasure in bombed cellars, and his elder brother working on building sites all day and playing his violin at a café at night to earn a hot meal. Then his sister Margaret finds a job on a farm, and this leads to Noah's Ark, the home of the family's dreams.

## FRENCH THE EASY WAY

*Suzanne Goes to Brittany*, and *Suzanne Goes to Market*, by Grace Matchett (George G. Harrapp, 6s. 6d. each.)

THE idea of teaching "French without tears" belongs to a previous generation; in these two books "French with broad grins" is successfully achieved, both by author and illustrator. Pleasing little stories are told in English on one page and French on the other facing it. These books, in no sense textbooks, provide an entertaining way of acquiring some simple everyday French.

## A FAMOUS TEACHER

*The Conti Story*, by Joan Selby-Lowndes (Collins, 8s. 6d.)

ITALIA CONTI, who died in 1946, won great fame as an actress, and even greater fame as a teacher of budding young actors and actresses. Several of her many pupils became stars, Noel Coward, Jack Hawkins, and Hermione Gingold among them. Her fascinating life-story is here easily told by one who herself spent four years teaching at the Italia Conti Stage School.

## HOME ON THE RANGE

*The Australian Twins*, by Daphne Rooke (Cape, 6s.)

THE latest of the famous Twins books, this gives a vivid picture of life on the wide ranges of New South Wales and Queensland. The 12-year-old twins ride and camp with the sheep-drovers; they fish and hunt; mix with Aborigines and settlers; they see dingo, cockatoo, and kangaroo in their haunts; and they find time to chase a thief. There is also a glossary explaining Australian expressions.

## AMONG ANCIENT BRITONS

*The Eagles Have Flown*, by Henry Treece (Bodley Head, 9s. 6d.)

WE are back in the Britain of the fifth century. The Romans have gone to protect their beloved Rome, and the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes are fighting among themselves, plundering and pillaging.

Young Festus, who has Roman blood in his veins, finds his village in ashes and his mother and sister gone. Seeking revenge on the Saxons he joins the forces of Artos the Bear, who was to become the legendary King Arthur. It all makes a fine adventure story.

## WORLD TOUR

*The Little Round World*, by Gladys Lister (Ward Lock, 10s. 6d.)

RUSKY's home is on a sheep and cattle station in Australia, and from there he is taken on a world tour. He sees the Hanging Gardens in Bombay and the cold wastes of Iceland; the winter sports in Switzerland and England in the Spring; the mighty Rockies and the rolling prairies of the West. There is so much for Rusty to see and do; and he even falls overboard from the liner into tropical sea!

## THE DEANS AGAIN

*The Deans Solve a Mystery*, by Kathleen Fidler (Lutterworth Press, 6s.)

IF Buffin had not bought the day-old chicks as a birthday present for Mother; if the Society for Good Friendship had not tried to find a hiding-place for them; if the old gardener had not given them the unwanted papers of the famous playwright; and if they had not discovered a lost play—well, we should have all missed a jolly adventure story, written in the masterly Kathleen Fidler fashion.

## ON HORSE-BACK THROUGH THE SNOWS

*Journey From the Arctic*, by D. C. Brown (Hodder and Stoughton, 15s.)

JUST for the fun of it, Donald Brown rode with a Danish friend from Arctic Finland to South Norway, and this is his account of their unusual trek. It was indeed a tough journey; often they slept on the snow under the fir trees. But they met some interesting people—not least among them the likeable Lapps.

## A KING TO THE RESCUE

*The Windmill Family*, by Pamela Brown (Nelson, 8s. 6d.)

ALL the Channings agreed that they had the best of fathers and that living in an old windmill was much better than living in a house in town. But Daddy did not earn a lot of money from his essay writing and it looked as though he must sell the house and take a job in the bank.

This most enjoyable book tells how this tragedy was averted by the intervention of a young runaway Indian king who was literally worth his weight in gold.

## MYSTERY IN BRITTANY

*The Granite Men*, by Garry Hogg (Nelson, 7s. 6d.)

ONE evening a serious talk on the Third Programme is interrupted by mysterious voices chanting a strange poem about Granite Men.

Jonty, Nat, Pen, and Angela are just off for a holiday to Brittany when Jonty, the brother with the ideas, pulls out a newspaper cutting all about these strange happenings. On the boat they learn that one of the clues in the poem consists of the old Latin name for Brittany and that therefore they are bound for the home of the Granite Men.

In the intervals of a wonderful holiday they start their thrilling search.

Garry Hogg's name on the title page is guarantee of a good yarn well told

## FUN IN THE JUNGLE

*Duiker's Delight*, by Thomas Fenton (Epworth Press, 6s.)

THE hero is a little antelope who, with the aid of his companions, Monkey and Bushbaby, escapes from the zoo and returns to his home in Africa. But after his stay at the zoo, Duiker has new ideas about how he should live. It is all great fun!

## NORTH O' THE BORDER

*Gypsy in Scarlet*, by John Niven (Faber, 12s. 6d.)

MR. NIVEN evidently knows the wild country on the fringes of the Cairngorms and uses that knowledge to put a vivid series of landscapes round his stirring story of a young Scots lad of 100 years ago.

Blair Mackenzie sees this grand country at its best, and worst, as he works with his uncle's timber gang.

His uncle, who is not above a little poaching, is falsely accused of killing an enemy and mysteriously dies. In search of the murderer, Blair enlists in the immortal Scots Greys and goes through the Crimean War.

## BALLET GIRL

*Ella at the Wells*, by Lorna Hill (Evans, 9s. 6d.)

EVERY girl who is keen on ballet will want to follow Ella's adventure from first page to last.

Ella's path, from the name-part in a village school pantomime to a scholarship at the Sadlers Wells School, is hard and sometimes unhappy. But the most exciting things happen, including the transformation of Ella herself from "an ugly sister" in a home which is not really her own.

## RECOMMENDED BOOKS

CONJURING, a Teach Yourself Book, by J. Elsdon Tufts (English Universities Press, 6s.)

THE GAME OF CHESS, by H. Golombek (Penguin, 2s. 6d.)

AERO MODELLER ANNUAL, 1954-5 (Model Aeronautical Press, 10s.)

ANIMAL TALES FROM IRELAND, by M. Grant Cormack (Harrap, 5s.)

PET BIRDS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS, by Eric Leyland (Kaye, 8s. 6d.)

COME MOTOR RACING WITH ME, by Jan Nickols (Muller, 9s. 6d.)

180 GAMES FOR ONE PLAYER, by J. B. Pick (Phoenix, 10s. 6d.)

MAGIC SIMPLIFIED, by Harry Baron (Kaye, 8s. 6d.)

MACHINES WHICH SEEM TO THINK, and THE WONDER WORLD OF LONG AGO, by Marie Neurath (Parrish, 6s. each.)

THE MOVING SPIRIT—The story of the motor-car in cartoons (Motor Racing Publications, 5s.)

YOUR BOOK OF LINO-CUTTING, by J. A. Shipperlee (Faber, 5s. 6d.)

THE WONDER BOOK OF THE ARMY (Ward Lock, 12s. 6d.)

AN INSTRUCTIONAL PAINTING BOOK OF HERALDRY, by John R. Biggs (Blandford Press, 3s.)

H.M. QUEEN ELIZABETH AND H.R.H. THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AND THEIR CHILDREN, Vol. 4, by Dorothy Laird (Pitkin, 9s. 6d.)

COMMONWEALTH AND EMPIRE ANNUAL, 1955 (Gawthorn Press, 15s.)





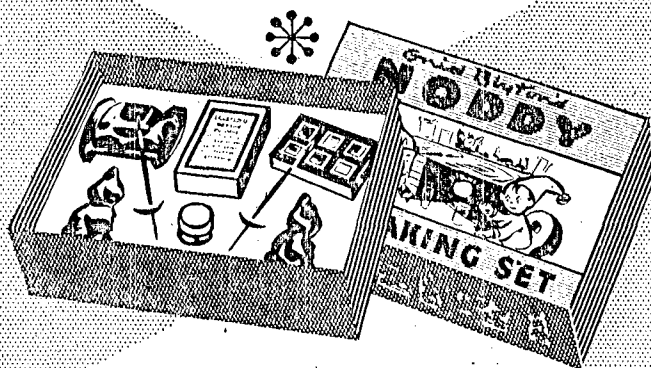
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## SHE LIVES ALONE IN THE OUTBACK

A woman who lives eight months of each year alone on an Australian cattle station has travelled 2000 miles to Brisbane for the Royal National Exhibition.

She is Queensland's only woman boundary rider, Miss Joyce Murray, and she has had sole charge of a sheep and cattle station of 28,000 acres about 80 miles from Cloncurry in the far north-west of the State.

Joyce Murray, who is 26, lives alone for eight months of the year. The only human she sees in that time is the mailman who makes a weekly call, weather permitting. For the remaining four months of each year she travels around the North Queensland show circuit with her string of six horses, and she took five first prizes, five seconds, and five thirds at the Brisbane show last year.

Born and bred in the bush, Joyce Murray has been on horses since she was six months old, when her mother carried her on a pillow in front of the saddle.

## BRITAIN'S SULPHUR SALE

When war broke out in Korea one of the first effects was a world shortage of sulphur. This raw material is absolutely vital to a wide range of industrial processes, and rationing was adopted.

To avoid any future hold-up, a number of British industrial firms have banded together and have sponsored a great new factory, costing about £5,000,000, at Widnes, Lancashire. Here sulphuric acid (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) will be produced from anhydrite, a form of calcium sulphate of which Britain has a good supply.

This new plant of the United Sulphuric Acid Company will be in production next Spring. It will work under the technical direction of Imperial Chemical Industries, who hold the patents for the process, and the annual output will be about 150,000 tons of sulphuric acid, as well as an equal quantity of a by-product to be used for making cement.

## HIGH MACHS

In France a new "order" has been inaugurated for famous people who are piloted through the sound barrier.

Latest recipient is M. Diomedé Catroux, the French Air Minister. Seated in the rear cockpit of the Mystère 4N night fighter, M. Catroux recently experienced a dive from 43,000 feet to 10,000 feet, where the Mystère attained a speed of Mach 1.15.

On landing, the Mystère's designer, M. Dassault, bestowed the Order of the High Mach on the Air Minister by passing a green and white tie around his neck.

## WONDERFUL OLD LADY

One of the most wonderful ladies in Britain is Mrs. Jane Speir, of Bridge of Allan, who recently celebrated her 107th birthday. She remembers the death of the Duke of Wellington, the Crimean War, and the Indian Mutiny.

During the last war she knitted 665 mufflers for the troops.

## Fairyland in California



Into the Ark, two by two, to see the monkeys

Children of Oakland, California, can slide like Jonah down the mouth of a whale and watch fish swimming about in a tank in the whale's inside. And Willie the Whale is just one of many attractions in Fairyland, a children's playground in Lakeside Park.

The young visitor enters Fairyland through a door in the Old Woman's Shoe, paying his few cents admission to the Old Woman herself. Nearby a giant Humpty Dumpty balances precariously on the top of a gaily decorated wall.

There are plenty of storybook pets on hand. The Three Little Pigs live happily in a brick house that no wolf, however big and bad, could possibly blow down. Mary's Little Lamb, his fleece almost white as snow, grazes contentedly by the little schoolhouse. Peter Rabbit's house is there, too.

A stream runs through the playground, and on it bobs a tub with the Butcher, the Baker, the Candlestick Maker. Nearby is the Merry Miller's mill, and there is also a Noah's Ark, with two monkeys.

Goosey Goosey Gander has his home in a miniature castle with

stairs that he can wander up and down. There is a handsome hen-house for the Little Red Hen, and a magnificent grandfather clock (Hickory Dickory Dock) that a mouse could run up. Not far away is the well from which little Johnny Stout rescued Pussy.

But the sea lions are perhaps the most popular animals in Fairyland, and they live near the home of the Carpenter from Lewis Carroll's *Through the Looking Glass*. The Carpenter's house, made from a barrel, stands on the top of the rock from which the sea lions plunge into the pool around them.

Designed by William Russell Everitt, a California artist, Fairyland was built four years ago with funds raised by various social organisations. Special programmes are held there at different times of the year (coloured eggs appear at Easter, and at Christmas-time there is a mechanical snowman).

Any boy or girl may reserve space in Fairyland for a birthday party, too. On these occasions the Sugar Plum Fairy comes to entertain, and the Sugar Plum Tree provides a special supply of sweets.



Sliding like Jonah into the mouth of the Fairyland whale



# THE ISLAND OF THE GODS

by Geoffrey Trease

Holly Blake and her parents, with John Stevens and his mother, an expert archaeologist, are looking for an ancient shrine on a Greek island. They suspect that a bearded Englishman, Dirk Lomas, is spying on their work. That evening they are told that a bearded foreigner wishes to see them.

## 12. The Lion Turns

"With a beard?" echoed Mr. Blake.

"It must be Dirk Lomas!" Holly gasped. "Fancy his coming to see us!"

"He's got one or two things to explain," said her mother grimly. "Burgling bedrooms and stealing maps, shutting up John in that tower—"

"Not to mention laying a false charge against me to the police in Athens," Mr. Blake reminded her, "which cost us a week's delay and a whacking great hotel bill!"

Five stern and hostile faces turned to greet the uninvited visitor as the café proprietor bowed him forward towards their table on the terrace.

And five jaws dropped in surprise.

The stranger was indeed a stranger. True, he had a beard—but it was not a bit like Dirk Lomas's beard. Nor, in any other respect, was the man a bit like Lomas. No amount of disguise, however skilful, could have turned that youngish, tough-looking ex-Commando into this elderly, frail little gentleman.

## The American

"Good evening," he said in a thin, high voice. "I hope you will forgive me? My name is Foley, Professor Foley—"

He had the accent of an educated American. As he took the chair which John offered him, he explained that he was staying at the monastery. Hearing that some English people had arrived on the last boat, he had come down to make their acquaintance.

"It's more than a little quiet up there," he said with a smile. "The monks don't talk a lot,"

"There's another guest, isn't there?" asked Mr. Blake. "A Norwegian?"

"Oh, yes. Mr. Alvig. But he doesn't speak any English—and I don't speak any Norwegian. And I guess Mr. Alvig hasn't come to Theonesos to talk, anyway. He paints. He's one of these wild artist types—goes off all day on his own; never speaks to anyone. Now I'm sociable," said the professor, his eyes twinkling behind his rimless glasses. "I write during the day, but by the evening I hanker after a little human contact."

John plucked up courage and asked a question which had been bothering him.

"Don't think me rude, sir, but—has Mr. Alvig a beard, too?"

The professor laughed. "No, that's the queerest thing—he's the only fellow up there who hasn't, even though he is a wild artist! All the monks have got beards like doormats. And I, well—" he stroked his own small beard and laughed again.

"Anyhow, he can't speak English," Holly murmured.

## Lone Viking

Professor Foley looked puzzled, and Dr. Stevens quickly changed the subject. She did not, John noticed, offer to explain. The American looked innocent enough, but there was no knowing.

After a little while the young people went up to bed, but the professor stayed, smoking his cigar and chatting with their parents.

They caught a glimpse of the Norwegian artist as they drank their breakfast coffee on the terrace next morning. His blond hair golden in the sun, he was sailing out of the harbour in one of the small island craft.

"There he goes in his caique," said Holly's father.

"In his what, daddy? His cake?"

"His C-A-I-Q-U-E," said the schoolmaster with a laugh. "Pronounced rather like 'cake,' certainly. The professor told us last night—Alvig has hired it from one of the fishermen. Sailing it single-handed, too, by jove! Still, he is a

Norwegian. Viking breed and all that."

"I wish he'd take me," said John wistfully.

"He wouldn't get any painting done," said Dr. Stevens. "I'm afraid your luck's out, dear. Mr. Alvig doesn't want company. You'll just have to come digging with us."

They set off for the other end of the island with a couple of spades they had managed to borrow. The two marble lions lay where they had left them the day before, smiling their eternal smiles.

"We'll have to report finding these," said Dr. Stevens. "But I do wish we could have got some more definite evidence before we hand over to the Greek authorities."

She stood leaning on her spade, her blue eyes surveying the jumble of old German trenches and new excavations which stretched inland from the two statues.

## Holly's discovery

"It's very puzzling," said Mr. Blake. "History says that there were marble lions at the outer entrance. These ought to be they. But where is the shrine?"

"Perhaps it was farther back than we've tried yet," said Dr. Stevens. "There may have been a kind of approach-road—a processional way—before the proper buildings started."

"Please," John chipped in. "Why does the second lion face the opposite way?" The first lion looked seaward, but the one they had dug up the previous day faced inland. Both had been broken off their pedestals.

"It's got turned the wrong way round at some time," said Mr. Blake, who was thinking about something else.

"No, it's the first lion which has been turned," cried Holly.

"How on earth do you know?" demanded John.

"Look where it used to stand!"

## A theory

They all hurried to her side. Holly had sat down on the flat stone slab where once the lion's statue had stood. It was still easy to see where the four marble paws had been riveted to it. Though it was impossible to lift the statue back into position, it needed only a quick glance of comparison to see that this lion, like its companion, had once faced inland.

"But it doesn't make sense," groaned Mr. Blake. "If you went into the shrine this way, you'd be in the sea before you'd gone ten yards!"

"Wait!" said Dr. Stevens. "I have a theory."

Suppose, she explained, there had been a landing-place for galleys at this end of the island. Suppose these two lions marked the entrance to some vanished jetty or landing-stage. In that case they might be matched by another pair of lions, facing them, at the entrance to the shrine itself, farther inland.

"How far, mummy?" asked John.

"Not far, I should think—or they wouldn't have bothered to make a landing-place just here."

Continued on page 15

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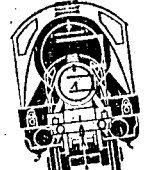
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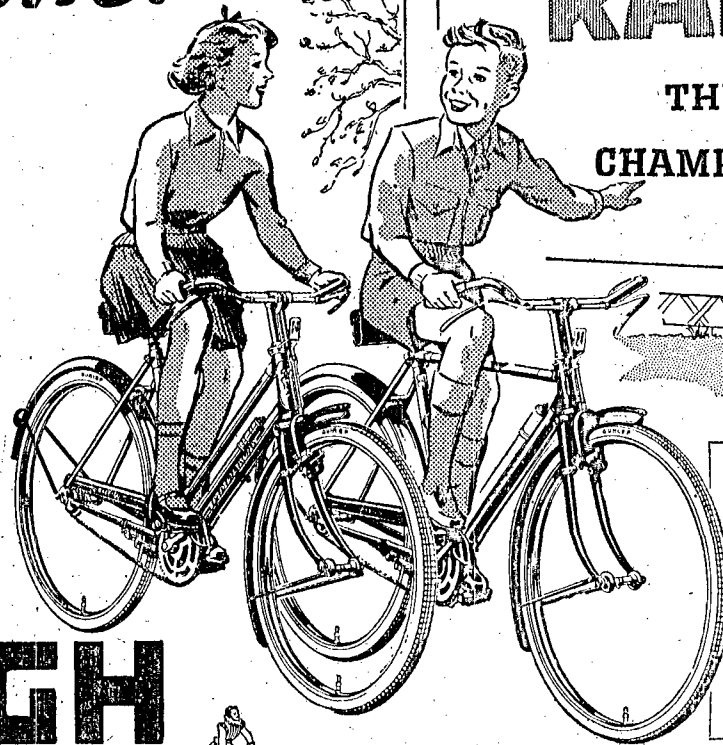
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# SPORTS SHORTS

**AN** Achilles Club medal, awarded for the best performance by a past or present member of Oxford or Cambridge during 1954, has been awarded to both Roger Bannister and Chris Chataway because their achievements have been of equal greatness.

**ARTHUR WINT**, one of the greatest athletes in the British Commonwealth, has been elected a vice-president of Polytechnic Harriers, the club whose colours he carried with such success. Now a doctor in London, Arthur Wint expects soon to return to his native Jamaica.

**FLORENCE WRIGHT**, a 16-year-old Barnsley girl, nearly cleared the board at the Hull Open Table Tennis Tournament. She won the Women's Singles, the Mixed Doubles, and reached the final of the Junior Singles. Florence was later chosen for the English Junior Table Tennis team against Belgium.

**THE** Women's National Squash Championships, usually held in January or February, start next Monday at the Lansdowne Club. The date has been advanced because the English team to contest the Wolfe-Noel Cup leaves for America early in the New Year. Miss Janet Morgan, who has held the Women's National title since 1950, is expected to take the title for the fifth time in succession.

**CAPTAIN GRAHAM SULLIVAN**, 26-year-old Army doctor, is hoping that this season he will get the Welsh Amateur cap that has eluded him during recent years. In the past he has appeared in Welsh trials at both Soccer and Rugby, and in a fortnight's time he will be playing in another Soccer trial. Graham Sullivan, who won fame with the St. Mary's Hospital Rugby and Soccer teams, now plays regularly for Barnet, the well-known amateur football club, and for his R.A.M.C. unit on the Rugger field.

**GARFIELD OWEN**, 22-year-old teacher-trainee at Egham, Surrey, had played top-class Rugby for only ten weeks when he was chosen as full-back in the first of the season's Welsh international trials. He made a great impression and may become a Welsh regular for this season's internationals. He comes from Newport, for whose XV he plays.

**THE** Rev. Ronald Cowley, minister at the Bromley Baptist Church, is now playing for the local amateur football club, after spending nine years as a member of Dulwich Hamlet, whose team he has captained. He also played for the Isthmian League last season.

**JOHNNY LEACH**, former world table tennis champion, recently played in his 100th international for England. He made his debut for his country against France in 1946.

**JOHN SURTEES**, son of a famous racing motor-cyclist, has been awarded the Pinhard Prize by the Auto-Cycle Union. This is presented annually for the finest motor-cycling achievement by a rider under 21. "Young John" Surtees now holds the lap record on nearly every racing circuit in Britain, excluding the Isle of Man.

Two years ago, Gordon Clayton, a tall, well-built schoolboy goalkeeper from Cannock, in Staffordshire, played for England against Wales. This season, as one of Manchester United's juniors, he has earned his Youth International cap. Manager Mr. Matt Busby forecasts that one day 17-year-old Gordon will complete the hat trick by gaining a full international cap.

**GEORGE HEADLEY**, the well-known West Indian Test batsman who has been playing as a professional in League cricket in this country, has been appointed official coach by the Jamaican

House of Representatives. Headley, who is 45, takes up his new appointment shortly.

**JACKIE MEKLER**, 22-year-old South African runner, who finished second in the Empire Games Marathon, has set up two world track records—4 hours 51 minutes 43 seconds for 40 miles, and 5 hours 24 minutes for 50 miles. Both records were previously held by Derek Reynolds, of England.

## Getting down to it



Miss Iris Cooley, one of Britain's leading Badminton players, returns a difficult shot.

**MARGARET FEATHER**, the 21-year-old Channel swimmer of Scarborough, is planning ahead. Next year she will be in Egypt to take part again in the 27-mile swim of the River Nile, which she won last year. In 1956 she may attempt to cross the 20-mile-wide Foveaux Strait, separating South Island and Stewart Island, New Zealand, which has never been attempted because of the very rough, choppy and strong tidal conditions.

SINCE April teams from Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Argentina, and Scotland have all played floodlit Soccer matches against West Ham but so far the London team has gone undefeated. Next Monday the Italian club Milan visit West Ham.

WHEN a combined Leicestershire and East Midlands side defeated the South African Rugby tourists in 1931 they were presented with a springbok's head. This was to be awarded to the winner of the annual game between the two sides. After a lapse of seven years Leicestershire have regained the trophy.

**THE** Allen J. Perrin Trophy, presented annually to the outstanding girl swimmer of the South of England, has been awarded to Fenella Webb, the 15-year-old butterfly stroke champion.

**LINDSAY HASSETT**, the former Australian captain, returns to first-class cricket next week when he will lead the Australian Prime Minister's side against the M.C.C.

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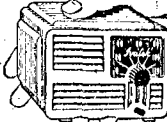
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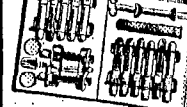


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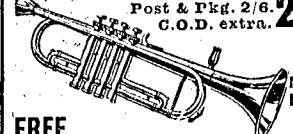
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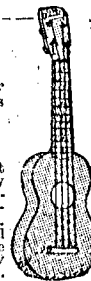
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539" 523/6; 545" 529/6; 551" 535/6; 557" 541/6; 563" 547/6; 569" 553/6; 575" 559/6; 581" 565/6; 587" 571/6; 593" 577/6; 599" 583/6; 605" 589/6; 611" 595/6; 617" 601/6; 623" 607/6; 629" 613/6; 635" 619/6; 641" 625/6; 647" 631/6; 653" 637/6; 659" 643/6; 665" 649/6; 671" 655/6; 677" 661/6; 683" 667/6; 689" 673/6; 695" 679/6; 701" 685/6; 707" 691/6; 713" 697/6; 719" 703/6; 725" 709/6; 731" 715/6; 737" 721/6; 743" 727/6; 749" 733/6; 755" 739/6; 761" 745/6; 767" 751/6; 773" 757/6; 779" 763/6; 785" 769/6; 791" 775/6; 797" 781/6; 803" 787/6; 809" 793/6; 815" 799/6; 821" 805/6; 827" 811/6; 833" 817/6; 839" 823/6; 845" 829/6; 851" 835/6; 857" 841/6; 863" 847/6; 869" 853/6; 875" 859/6; 881" 865/6; 887" 871/6; 893" 877/6; 899" 883/6; 905" 889/6; 911" 895/6; 917" 901/6; 923" 907/6; 929" 913/6; 935" 919/6; 941" 925/6; 947" 931/6; 953" 937/6; 959" 943/6; 965" 949/6; 971" 955/6; 977" 961/6; 983" 967/6; 989" 973/6; 995" 979/6; 1001" 985/6; 1007" 991/6; 1013" 997/6; 1019" 1003/6; 1025" 1009/6; 1031" 1015/6; 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1901" 1885/6; 1907" 1891/6; 1913" 1897/6; 1919" 1903/6; 1925" 1909/6; 1931" 1915/6; 1937" 1921/6; 1943" 1927/6; 1949" 1933/6; 1955" 1939/6; 1961" 1945/6; 1967" 1951/6; 1973" 1957/6; 1979" 1963/6; 1985" 1969/6; 1991" 1975/6; 1997" 1981/6; 2003" 1987/6; 2009" 1993/6; 2015" 1999/6; 2021" 2005/6; 2027" 2011/6; 2033" 2017/6; 2039" 2023/6; 2045" 2029/6; 2051" 2035/6; 2057" 2041/6; 2063" 2047/6; 2069" 2053/6; 2075" 2059/6; 2081" 2065/6; 2087" 2071/6; 2093" 2077/6; 2099" 2083/6; 2105" 2089/6; 2111" 2095/6; 2117" 2101/6; 2123" 2107/6; 2129" 2113/6; 2135" 2119/6; 2141" 2125/6; 2147" 2131/6; 2153" 2137/6; 2159" 2143/6; 2165" 2149/6; 2171" 2155/6; 2177" 2161/6; 2183" 2167/6; 2189" 2173/6; 2195" 2179/6; 2201" 2185/6; 2207" 2191/6; 2213" 2197/6; 2219" 2203/6; 2225" 2209/6; 2231" 2215/6; 2237" 2221/6; 2243" 2227/6; 2249" 2233/6; 2255" 2239/6; 2261" 2245/6; 2267" 2251/6; 2273" 2257/6; 2279" 2263/6; 2285" 2269/6; 2291" 2275/6; 2297" 2281/6; 2303" 2287/6; 2309" 2293/6; 2315" 2299/6; 2321" 2305/6; 2327" 2311/6; 2333" 2317/6; 2339" 2323/6; 2345" 2329/6; 2351" 2335/6; 2357" 2341/6; 2363" 2347/6; 2369" 2353/6; 2375" 2359/6; 2381" 2365/6; 2387" 2371/6; 2393" 2377/6; 2399" 2383/6; 2405" 2389/6; 2411" 2395/6; 2417" 2401/6; 2423" 2407/6; 2429" 2413/6; 2435" 2419/6; 2441" 2425/6; 2447" 2431/6; 2453" 2437/6; 2459" 2443/6; 2465" 2449/6; 2471" 2455/6; 2477" 2461/6; 2483" 2467/6; 2489" 2473/6; 2495" 2479/6; 2501" 2485/6; 2507" 2491/6; 2513" 2497/6; 2519" 2503/6; 2525" 2509/6; 2531" 2515/6; 2537" 2521/6; 2543" 2527/6; 2549" 2533/6; 2555" 2539/6; 2561" 2545/6; 2567" 2551/6; 2573" 2557/6; 2579" 2563/6; 2585" 2569/6; 2591" 2575/6; 2597" 2581/6; 2603" 2587/6; 2609" 2593/6; 2615" 2599/6; 2621" 2605/6; 2627" 2611/6; 2633" 2617/6; 2639" 2623/6; 2645" 2629/6; 2651" 2635/6; 2657" 2641/6; 2663" 2647/6; 2669" 2653/6; 2675" 2659/6; 2681" 2665/6; 2687" 2671/6; 2693" 2677/6; 2699" 2683/6; 2705" 2689/6; 2711" 2695/6; 2717" 2701/6; 2723" 2707/6; 2729" 2713/6; 2735" 2719/6; 2741" 2725/6; 2747" 2731/6; 2753" 2737/6; 2759" 2743/6; 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3197" 3181/6; 3203" 3187/6; 3209" 3193/6; 3215" 3199/6; 3221" 3205/6; 3227" 3211/6; 3233" 3217/6; 3239" 3223/6; 3245" 3229/6; 3251" 3235/6; 3257" 3241/6; 3263" 3247/6; 3269" 3253/6; 3275" 3259/6; 3281" 3265/6; 3287" 3271/6; 3293" 3277/6; 3299" 3283/6; 3305" 3289/6; 3311" 3295/6; 3317" 3301/6; 3323" 3307/6; 3329" 3313/6; 3335" 3319/6; 3341" 3325/6; 3347" 3331/6;



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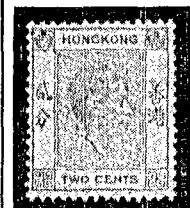


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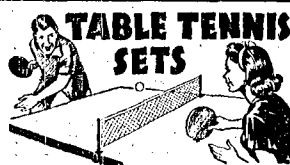
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## LOOKING AT THE SKY

# FRAGMENT OF A LONG LOST WORLD

## Where to find the planetoid Vesta

A WORLD once existed between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter some 250 million miles from the Sun. The remnants of that lost world indicate that it met with a terrible disaster, the immense number of fragments left behind being evidence of its explosive character and its locality.

One of the largest of these fragments may be glimpsed on any dark and clear night during the next two months. It is known as the planetoid Vesta and is at present almost at its nearest point

conditions and with the aid of binoculars or field-glasses. Vesta is in the constellation of Taurus, the celestial Bull, to be found high up in the south-west sky of an evening.

The bright reddish star Aldebaran, popularly known as the Bull's Eye, is at one corner of the group of stars known as the Hyades Cluster. Some way to the north-east will be seen another not-so-bright star, Zeta-in-Taurus. Just below this is Vesta.

The star-map presents the details and all the stars perceptible to the naked eye, but Vesta, being invisible, is shown by an X; the arrow indicates the distance it will travel during the next six weeks.



The present position of Vesta and its movements during the next ten weeks

to the Earth and therefore at its brightest.

Vesta just now appears like a seventh magnitude star, which accounts for the original but incorrect name of "asteroid" given to this crowd of small star-like bodies. Later it was realised that they were bits of a smashed world, and masses of rock speeding through space but in a variety of directions round the Sun, the result, of course, of the explosion. Vesta is the brightest of all these fragments and sometimes can be seen with the naked eye. It will not approach nearer to us than about 148 million miles, which will be on December 16.

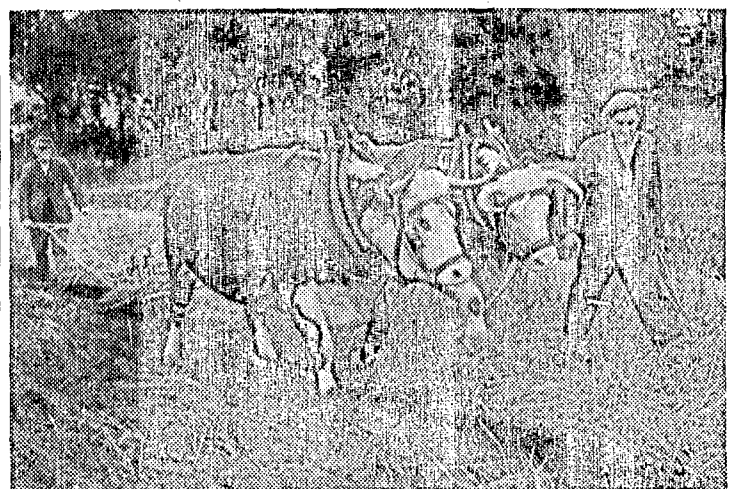
This portion of that long lost world, which is almost the largest piece left, has a diameter of about 240 miles; it is exceeded only by Ceres with a diameter of 480 miles and Pallas with 304 miles. Though larger, they are not so bright as Vesta, and therefore not so easily seen.

However, this planetoid may be readily glimpsed if viewed in good

It is this movement of Vesta that will make it possible for the observer to identify Vesta as it appears to thread its way through the numerous faint stars. If a sketch is made indicating the position of these stars, and then referred to in a few days the movement of one of them, Vesta, should be obvious; that was how it was discovered by the German doctor-astronomer, Heinrich Olbers, on March 29, 1807.

Ceres had already been discovered by its movement in 1801 by Giuseppe Piazzi, a famous Sicilian astronomer. Pallas was discovered by Olbers in 1802, and Juno, a smaller one, was found in 1804. With Vesta, these appeared to be all the "bits" as no more were found until 1845 when Astraea was added to the other four. But even with these five there were not enough bits to make even a small planet.

However, hundreds of fragments have since been spotted with diameters of 100 miles or so, and now, including bits with a diameter of a mile or two, the number reaches 1605. G. F. M.



## Last of the ox-ploughmen?

Probably the last pair of oxen used for ploughing in Britain are here seen at work on Lord Bathurst's estate at Cirencester. Mr. E. Smith, who is leading one of them, has been training oxen for 40 years.

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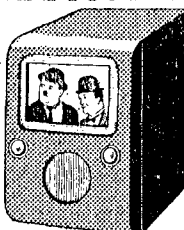
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## CN Competition No. 17

# WIN A GIANT CRACKER!

CHRISTMAS is almost here again—and in No. 17 of C N's fortnightly competitions readers have the opportunity to win one of the ten Giant Crackers offered as prizes. Three feet long, packed with a dozen toys, a dozen hats, as well as balloons, snaps, mottoes, and so on, one of these awards can be the centre-piece of your Christmas party. Enter right away—the contest is open to all under 17 living in Great Britain, Northern Ireland, and the Channel Islands. And it is free!

The pictures below show 17 objects, the name of each one beginning with a different letter of the alphabet. All you are asked to do is name the nine remaining alphabetical letters which are *not* represented.

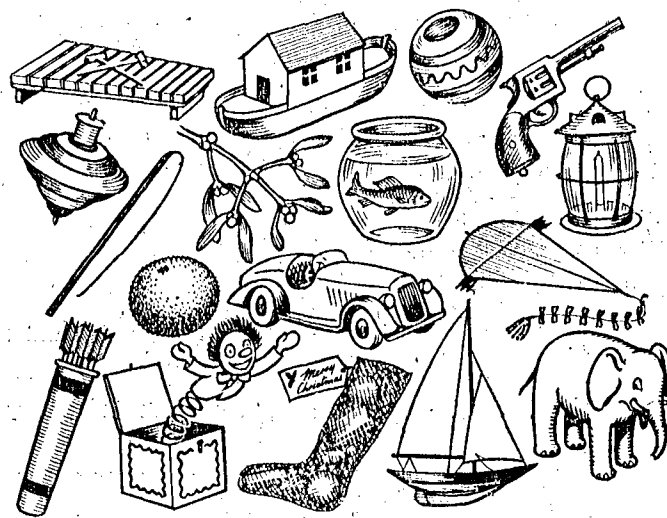
Write your answer neatly on a postcard or piece of plain paper, add your full name, age, and address, and ask an adult to sign the entry as your own unaided work. Attach to it the competition token (marked C N Token) from the back page of this issue, and post to:

C N Competition No. 17,

3 Pilgrim Street, London, E.C.4 (Comp.),

to arrive by Tuesday, December 14, the closing date.

Giant Crackers will be awarded (in time for Christmas) for the ten entries which are correct, or most nearly so, and the best written according to age. The Editor's decision is final.



## THE ISLAND OF THE GODS

Continued from page 11

"More digging!" groaned the boy.

"That's what we've come for. One has to be patient in this game. If we do a few trial digs on a straight line running inland from between these two lions, but farther back than we've tried so far, it may do the trick."

Before starting so big a job, however, they tested Dr. Stevens' new theory by digging a narrow trench down to the water's edge. To everyone's delight they came at once, on a flagged causeway, hidden under a mere foot or two of sand. It ran right down into the sea. It was easy to imagine Ancient Greek galleys being dragged up that gentle slope, while the pilgrims leapt out and walked ashore, carrying their offerings.

"No more this morning," ruled Dr. Stevens. "Lunch now. Then sleep or swim. And when the heat goes off a little, we'll peg out a line inland and look for likely bumps in the ground."

It was tantalising, now that they seemed to be making a little progress, but even the impatient younger ones knew that she was right. The midday heat was far too intense for heavy work. Nobody wanted sunstroke.

All the same, John and Holly were never able to keep still for anything like as long as their parents were. As the compulsory "hour after lunch" ticked to its end, they slipped into their swimsuits, and, having received the drowsy nod of permission from their respective mothers, they raced over the burning sands into the tepid sea.

"This is better!" spluttered John, bobbing up and dashing the water from his eyes.

"Rather!"

"I wish I had a frogman's outfit! Might find a shipwrecked galle!"

But they had no frogman's outfit—and in any case, peering down through the clear water, they could see that there were no sunken vessels below.

"Race you to the little island!" cried Holly, and started. John went surging after her.

Only a narrow strait separated them from the deserted islet of Mikros and, on so calm a day, the distance was well within their powers. Of course, they should never have done it. For all they knew, there might have been treacherous currents which would have swept them out into the open sea.

However, they had fool's luck, and there were no such currents, and soon John was scrambling out as the triumphant winner, with Holly only a length or two behind.

"Nothing much to see here," he panted, as they clambered over the rocks.

"No—" The girl's tone changed suddenly. "Look at that!" she whispered, pointing to a red splash on one of the boulders. "Blood—like that I saw in the fort! And hardly dry!"

John put out his fingers, then laughed. "That isn't blood, you chump! Don't you know what that is?" Then he glanced round hastily, as if aware of a new danger.

To be continued

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## THE BRAN TUB

### PRICE OF BEING A KING

THE story is told of George I being charged very highly for two or three eggs which he had ordered from a small Dutch inn. "How is this?" he asked. "Eggs must be very scarce in this place."

"Eggs are plentiful enough," replied his host, "but kings are scarce."

The money was paid.

### SPOT THE . . .

ROE DEER as it moves daintily across a woodland glade. The smallest of our deer, a full grown buck measures about 27 inches at



the shoulder, and weighs between 40 and 50 lb. It is excessively shy and is not easily seen.

From October to May, the roe deer's coat is a greyish-brown. In the summer it is a lovely russet hue. The muzzle is beautifully marked with black and white. Roe deer feed at dawn and dusk.

### EARTH FOR SALE

EARTH is valued so highly in Nepal, a country between Tibet and India, that it is sold by the basketful in the market.

### PAIRS PUZZLE

Twelve objects often coupled together have been shifted round in the following phrases. Can you put them in their usual order?

**Bow and fork**  
Pins and lightning  
Strawberries and ladders  
Knife and needles  
Thunder and cream  
Snakes and arrow

Answer in column 5

### LICKED INTO SHAPE

WHEN we say that a person has been "licked into shape" we mean that he has become more presentable.

Possibly the phrase arose from an old belief that bear cubs were born without shape, being hairless and very small. The mother cleans them by licking them—into shape!

In one of his poems, Pope refers to this belief.

*So watchful Bruin forms, with plastic care,  
Each growing lump, and brings it to a bear.*

### ALPHABET PUZZLE

The answers to the following questions all begin with the letter H.

WHAT did the Greeks call the underworld?

Which Roman Emperor had a wall built across the North of the British Isles?

Another way of saying Ave Maria  
Who is the Emperor of Abyssinia?  
What is the coat of mammals?  
Name a fish of the cod family

Answer in column 5

## CARATS IN GOLD

A CARAT is a measure of purity of gold. Pure gold contains 24 carats; therefore a carat can be regarded as a 24th part of an article containing gold. If a bracelet, for instance, was labelled "14 carat gold" it would have 14 parts of it of pure gold and ten parts of some other metal or metals.

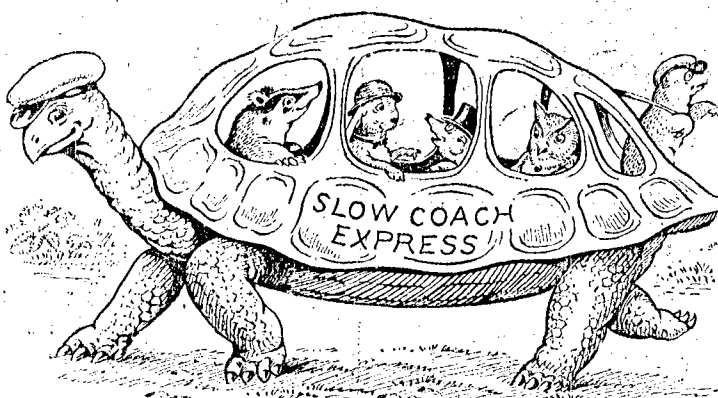
The word carat is also applied to a measure of weight for precious stones. Nowadays that weight is taken as 200 milligrams. Many years ago when gold and silver were also calculated in carats, the carat bean, seed of the locust or carob tree, was used as weight.

### OBVIOUS

"WHAT is raised in countries with wet climates?" the geography teacher asked the class.

"Umbrellas," came a voice from the back of the room.

## TRANSPORT AT THE ZOO



IF you want to catch your train,  
Inside this coach you'll try in vain.  
But those inside could not care less,

For there in Turtle's roominess  
They meet to hear the latest news  
Of queer folk in the other zoos.

### RIDDLE OF JANE'S CLASS

IF there were five more girls and eight fewer boys in Jane's new class, there would be twice as many girls as boys. If there were five fewer girls and eight more boys, there would be twice as many boys as girls. How many children are there in Jane's class?

Answer in column 5

### He won't be long now!



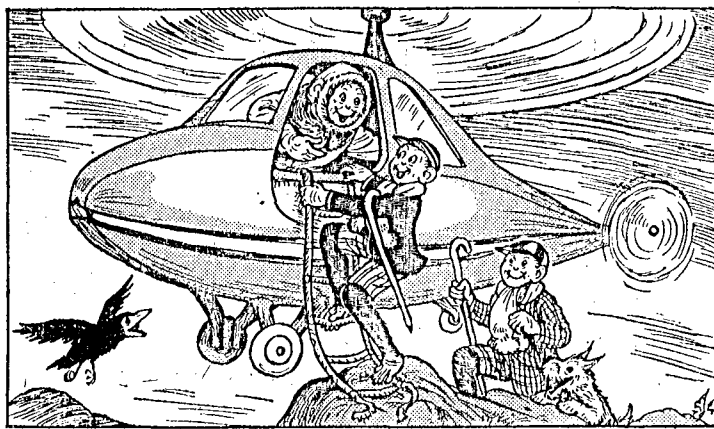
"Wait until December 25!"

### SAMMY SIMPLE

"NAME the seasons of the year," said the next poser on the blackboard.

Sammy thought hard, then wrote: "Football and cricket."

## HIGH TIME FOR JACKO AND CHIMP



Jacko and Chimp had gone hill-climbing. They found that their trail led only upwards right to the very summit. The route down the other side was far too steep and it looked as if they would have to retrace their steps. "We'll have to fly if we are to be in time for tea," remarked Chimp. Then out of the blue, as it were, came a helicopter, and out of the cockpit came the cheery face of Uncle. "Climb in," he said, lowering a rope ladder over the side, "and I'll give you a lift home." "As you said, Chimp," remarked Jacko, "we'll have to fly if we are going to be in time for tea!"

### TRAVELLING TROUBLE

AN old lady was waiting to ask a policeman something but he was engaged in giving instructions to a man on how to get to a certain street. Interrupting, she said: "All you have to do is get on a number 418 bus and it will take you right there."

"Thank you, ma'am," said the man, "but I can't get my lorry on a number 418 bus."

**ONE MORE MAKES TWO MORE**  
WHAT word of one syllable becomes a word of three syllables with the addition of only one letter?

Are, plus a, makes area

## CAUGHT

YOUNG Johnny persisted in looking out of the train window at the risk of having his cap blown off. Finally Father snatched off Johnny's cap and, hiding it behind his back, said: "There now, you've lost your cap."

Johnny immediately began to cry.

"All right, all right!" said Father, "if I whistle your cap will come back."

He duly whistled and swiftly replaced the cap on Johnny's head.

Johnny, of course, was highly amused and taking off his cap he threw it out of the window and cried: "Whistle and make it come back again, Dad."

### SINGING IN THE RAIN

QUACKED a jolly old drake:  
"All this rain

Makes me feel like a duckling again.

Like a mudlark I sing,

I waggle one wing,

And paddle in pools down the lane."

### BRAN TUB ANSWERS

Pairs puzzle. Bow and arrow, pins and needles, strawberries and cream, knife and fork, thunder and lightning, snakes and ladders  
Alphabet puzzle. Hades, Hadrian, Hail Mary, Haile Selassie, hair, lake  
Riddle of Jane's class. 39 (19 girls and 20 boys)

### LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWER

MAIL	FAIR
A	NEARS
S	ATE
T	OPEN
T	WASSET
A	APT
S	KATE
T	ELL
T	VIEW
A	TALON
B	OS
S	NETS

## Find my letters

Remember me? I'm Sir Kreemy

Knut, the mascot of Sharps

Toffee. I've got a little puzzle

for you—when you've solved it

try it on your friends. Using the

clues I've given you, try to make a word

by substituting a letter for each of these figures:—

1	2	3	4	5	6

2 3 4 means away

4 5 6 is what you're paid for doing a job

2 4 1 means frequently

3 6 1 5 describes a gala, with flags and all

1 2 4 3 might almost describe me!

1 2 3 4 5 6 tastes good—and has a lot to do with me

Turn this page upside-down to find the answer.



the word for toffee

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by the figures is  
TOFFEE—and as  
far as I'm concern-  
ed, that means  
Sharps Super-  
ious Toffees—the  
most delicious  
you've ever  
tasted.